The Middlebury Campus

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J-Term Prompts Debate from All Corners of Campus

By Megan O'Keefe
NEWS EDITOR

Faculty and student concerns are increasingly at odds in an escalating debate over the future of Winter Term.

While students are overwhelmingly in favor of preserving Middlebury's current 4-1-4 calendar, a majority of the faculty present during an Oct. 13 discussion on the future Winter Term urged the College to eliminate the abbreviated session.

Approximately 65 members of the faculty and administration attended the discussion, which took place during an open meeting of the faculty. Faculty dialogue on the merits of Winter Term began in September when seven discussion groups convened at Bread Loaf.

FOR COMPREHENSIVE COVERAGE OF THE WINTER TERM DILEMMA, TURN TO PAGES 4 AND 5.

Dean of the Faculty and Vice President for Academic Affairs Alison Byerly said the groups were used to "take the pulse of the faculty on the issue," as the Educational Affairs Committee began its yearlong evaluation of the current academic calendar.

The common themes from the Bread Loaf discussion groups were summarized on a handout that lists 10 "valuable aspects of Winter Term" and seven "concerns about the fall/winter/spring calendar and Winter Term." Capturing many of the principal faculty concerns, the lists address issues ranging from pedagogy to faculty and student exhaustion.

The list recognizes Winter Term as a positive space for internships, special programs (including comprehensive exams), interdisciplinary classes, focused time for student research and senior work and off-campus courses. While current budget constraints have suspended off-campus Winter Term courses, the future of these programs remains unclear.

The fact that Winter Term "allows intensive

SEE COLLEGE, PAGE 5

Photo Illustration by Albert Bitici

The number of bikes reported stolen on campus rose to 24 in October, up from four in September, according to Public Safety statistics.

Bike Thefts Spike as Students Take to 'Borrowing'

By Taylor Johnston
STAFF WRITER

Though Middlebury College often sells itself as being a liberal arts *community*, it appears students may be overdrawing from the principle of communal living. Bike theft at Middlebury College has increased exponentially since the start of October, due in part to some students' liberal definition of "borrowing." Lisa Boudah, director of Public Safety, states the problem simply. "We are still trying to work with students to understand [the concept] 'don't take something that isn't yours.'"

Yes, though some may not realize it, the idea of private property is still alive and well at Middlebury, according to the Department of Public Safety. "Students are borrowing without permission and depriving the owner of use," explains Boudah. "There's a chance [the owner] might not get [the bike] back. In my mind, that's stealing."

Ricky Klein '07 has already had three encounters with this "borrowing" problem this semester, leaving his bike only to return and find it gone. As has most often been the case with Middlebury bike thefts, each time he later recovered the bike from a place where the "borrower" abandoned it on campus.

"The thing is that people aren't malicious," says Klein. "It's usually more like, 'Crap, I have to get to class. Who was dumb enough not to lock their bike?' If it was malicious, they would have taken the bike apart or something. And I really don't think there's much of a black market here at Middlebury."

The inclination to use any bike without a lock may come from a misconception about the yellow bike program, Public Safety suggests. "Many students don't have a clear understanding that they had to join the program to use a bike, and also that if the bike is privately owned you need the owner's permission," explained Boudah.

The Middlebury Campus recently in-

SEE BIKES, PAGE 6

Council Streamlines TIPS Training

By Thomas Drescher
STAFF WRITER

The Community Council voted Tuesday to approve a TIPS training reform proposal. The legislation, effective immediately, introduces a shorter, more concise training process for student party hosts at Middlebury College.

The proposal was drafted over the summer by a subcommittee of Council members, including Student Co-Chair of Community Council Erin Sullivan '04, Director of Public Saftey Lisa Boudah, Associate Dean of Library and Information Services David Donahue and Director for Campus Activities and Leadership Doug Adams. According to Sullivan, the primary objective of the subcommittee was "to condense the current TIPS information session into a more concise format that would emphasize Vermont's liability laws and the College's alcohol policy."

The revised training process will be held once a week and will be conducted by the Department of Public Safety. Rather than being a three

SEE BEST, PAGE 6

Photo Illustration by Vlad Lodoaba

Registering parties will no longer be the hassle it once was not that the College is offering an abbreviated, student-friendly TIPS course. The certification is good for one semester.

Is Middlebury College More 'Out' Than Ever?

By Claire M. L. Bourne
MANAGING EDITOR

"I have never felt more open than when I'm here," says Paul Doyle '07 of Middlebury College as he hugs one knee in a booth at The Grille. Doyle, one of a handful of openly gay first-years, speaks about his sexuality with gentle confidence, not worrying to lower his voice when people pass by or install themselves at the table behind him.

When Bill Birkett '07 sits down with his tray in the middle of Ross Dining Hall, I ask if he would feel more comfortable conducting our interview in the seminar room down the hall. "Oh no, I'm open," he responds before diving into his plate of spaghetti.

It hasn't always been this way for members of the College's gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgendered, questioning (GLBTQ) student community. After a decade characterized by a complex series of triumphs and setbacks, the College on the Hill appears to be experiencing a queer renaissance of sorts.

The Middlebury Open Queer Alliance (moqa) currently boasts more than 20 active members, up from about eight last year. Last month, Coming Out Week events attracted impressive crowds. The College's Ally Group — a network of students, faculty and staff committed to supporting GLBTQ members of the community — is in the process of drafting a constitution to gain official student organization status. And last, but perhaps most notably, a symbolic closet constructed by moqa in October on McCullough Lawn was left standing, without suffering vandalism, for the duration of Coming Out Week — something that hasn't happened in more than six years.

GLBTQ (IN)VISIBILITY
PART ONE IN A THREE-PART SERIES

These developments add up to significant progress for a community still tending to wounds sustained when a closet similar to the one built this year was destroyed last fall. Un-

SEE GLBTQ, PAGE 3

INSIDE

NEWS.....1
OPNIONS.....8
LOCAL NEWS.....10
FEATURES.....13
ARTS.....17
SPORTS.....28

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www.middlebury campus.com

MiddBriefs

by Claire Bourne and Virginia Harper

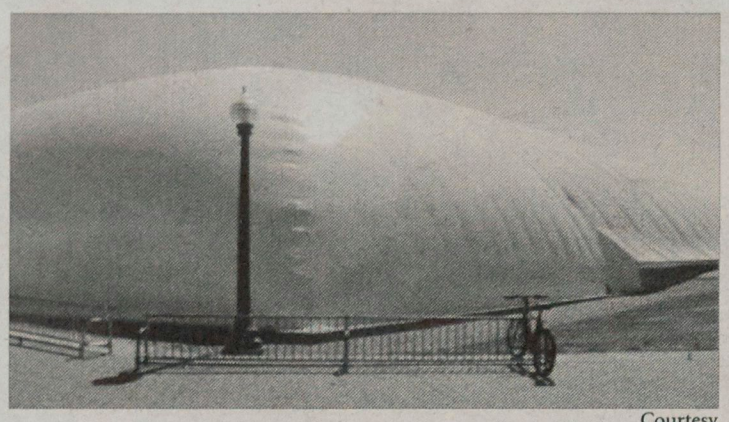
Charge Against Turco Dropped

An assault charge brought against Molly Turco '04 early last month has been dropped. Turco and her brother Mark were in Addison District Court Monday morning for a status conference. Her lawyer declined to comment on the dropped charge of assaulting a police officer.

Molly and Mark Turco were both charged with misdemeanor offenses after an alleged altercation with police outside a student-organized fundraising event at 226 South Munger Street on Oct. 12, court records say.

Both still face charges of hindering police officer activity and resisting arrest. Mark Turco is also charged with trespassing. Their next court date — another status conference — is scheduled for Dec. 16.

Ammonia Leak Contained In Kenyon



Courtesy

Last Thursday, the alarm for evacuation burst student athletes' bubbles.

Middlebury College's athletic complex was evacuated on Nov. 6 when the building's alarms signaled an ammonia leak. In response to the alert, Director of Public Safety Lisa Boudah dispatched an officer who was able to smell ammonia within the facility. "I did not want to take any chances regarding safety. I directed my staff to call the Middlebury Fire Department and asked that officers direct people to leave the area," said Boudah.

Amy Josephson '05 was participating in weekly physical education class, "Fit and Lean," when an officer came in to evacuate the students. "We'd just completed an intense round of step aerobics and were just about to do our cool down and crunches when an officer came in," said Josephson. "Because the music was loud (techno) we couldn't hear what he said. But then our instructor, Leigh, called into her microphone, 'we all need to evacuate immediately, there's been an ammonia leak!'

George McPhail, a staff engineer for Facilities Management, explained that the leak came from a heat exchanger in an isolated part of Kenyon Arena. The ammonia is "only used for the ice rink. It keeps the floor cold," he said. The freezing chemical is contained in its own room and is not a threat to the rest of the building. "It was a mechanical thing. That's not to say there won't be more ammonia leaks. Eventually a seal will wear out, and there may be a small leak," added McPhail.

An ammonia detection system in the room alerts technicians of a leak. The system sets off a red alarm light and turns on an exhaust fan that blows the chemicals into outside air, keeping them away from athletes inside the building.

"I know that the threat was small," said Boudah, explaining the decision to evacuate the building, "but did not want to take the risk and find out later that it was a greater problem."

"We did not even have time to put our steps away," said Josephson. "I cannot say I was scared or nervous really, it was more just strange. [Some class members], disappointed that we didn't get to do our abs, found some space in the CFA and finished up our workout there."

BannerWeb at a Glance

Most Popular Winter Term Courses
(Courses filled on the first day of registration)

ART 1003 Elements of Drawing
ENGL 0175 Paying Attention
SOAN 1031 The 1960's
PHED 0362 Snowshoeing

Percent of Students Registered

First-Year — 98%
Sophomores — 95%
Juniors — 78%
Seniors — 76%

Percent of Students Registered within One Hour

First-Year — 88%
Sophomore — 67%
Juniors — 61%
Seniors — 40%

The Rise of the New Right

By Daniel Phillips
News Editor

Vlad Lodoaba

Sarah Jones '07 boasts one of the enthusiastic first-year voices of the recent conservative resurgence on campus.

Tabby Connor '04, chair of the Middlebury College Republicans, was one of the only outspoken conservatives at her Vermont High School, which caused a great uproar in her pronounced liberal surroundings, and even among her close friends.

This same prejudice of political earmarking seeps its way all too often into classroom discussions at Middlebury College, squelching an otherwise quiet contingent of undergraduates who are gravitating more towards the right on many issues.

According to the University of California Los Angeles (UCLA) Higher Education Research Institute, student conservatism has been on the rise for the past four years. Incoming college freshmen nationwide have voiced a distinct drop in support for casual sex, legal abortion, wealthy people paying a larger share of taxes and provision for gun laws.

This resurgence of college conservatism under the current Bush administration recalls the years during Clinton's presidency when undergraduates instead tended toward more left-wing labels. And while conservative interest groups around the country have seized this opportunity to fuel and finance the recent wave, a youthful resurgence has rippled all the way to Middlebury's campus, as evidenced by the ranks of the College Republicans.

With a committed core of close to 12 conservatives, about half of the College Republicans are first-years, all freshly recruited from this year's activities fair that added 20 new names to the right-wing bandwagon. Connor noted that the first-years at the meetings have been very enthusiastic about taking on future responsibilities for the organization and she hopes the club will prove more proactive with the increased involvement.

Connor claimed, "We do not have a set of beliefs we go by because we have such a range of political views, mostly moderate. What connects us is a belief in a limited role of government. The extent of that role varies from person to person." Connor explained that the club's debate of formulating a consensus on current political issues gradually becomes more of a factual discussion.

Facets of Activism

"A lot of students see it as an outlet to state or local politics," said Connor, herself a delegate from Middlebury town voters to the Addison County Republicans. Drew Pugsley '04.5 is also heavily involved in local politics as a member of the national board of directors for the Republican Party, also holding a seat on the executive committees for Addison County and for the state of Vermont.

Hailing from Ohio, Pugsley described the political environment in Vermont as very accepting of his party affiliation and noted that being chosen as state representative back home would have been much more difficult. He also would never have had the privilege of an invitation to the home of the Vermont Speaker of the House of Representatives for fresh maple syrup.

At the club, said Pugsley, "We are more geared towards conservatism than the Republican party. If you say you are a Republican, you are going to get pigeon-holed."

He has noticed that there are more conservatives on campus than in previous years, perhaps due to the increased interest in the club, which has also recently updated its constitution to herald the rising attendance. Pugsley also suspects that many of Middlebury students do not realize their conservative labels, but they probably have them.

Connor agrees that, in general, the nation is seeing a rise in Independent voters — there is a shift of people becoming more moderate as presidential candidates are gravitating towards the center of the political fence.

Connor thinks that the large number of Republican spokespeople in the current Bush administration contributes to this newfound undergraduate adoption of conservative tendencies because "people are hearing more of both sides."

She also speculated that the offspring of the baby boomers, a generation known for its radical counterculture, will consequently want to be Republican, following the trend of children rebelling against their parents.

On the Agenda

Last year, all of the club members went to different state events, and many have volunteered for various levels of involvement in state and local politics, including the campaign of Vermont Governor Jim Douglas '72, a past member of the College Republicans.

The club is working to set up a presidential debate with the College Democrats next spring, and is preparing for a breakfast with the Addison County legislators when local representatives have their meeting on Middlebury's campus.

At the meeting, College students and local residents are invited to participate in discussions about what the legislative committees are working on. Next fall, they will attempt to hold a gubernatorial debate on campus, according to Pugsley.

Conservatives in Class

Sarah Jones '07 is one such voice of Middlebury conservatism. Brought up in Indiana, she has always been a "gung-ho" Republican. Jones explained how her parents had expressed concern for the political backdrop at Middlebury as early as their first campus tour together last year after seeing the plethora of anti-war propaganda posted campuswide.

Still trying to adjust to her classes, she has found her new political environment at Middlebury as "kind of a test" that either made her question her previous beliefs or reaffirm them.

"Sometimes it feels crushing because I feel like I am the minority here, but I never let that stop me," explained Jones. Although she has already encountered many students who are not politically active, "People on the whole are much more open. At Middlebury, people really strive for tolerance and appreciate other ideas," she said.

Connor agreed. "There is a feeling that it is harder to be a Republican in college, but we are very fortunate at Middlebury with the level of tolerance. When I explain why I think the way I do," she continued, the reaction to her stance is often, 'Oh, I never looked at it that way before.'

Annie Davies '06 expressed a similar opinion. "The College Republicans do not take a unified position — there has not been a need for that. We are trying to develop a sense of listening to other people's opinions. That is what Middlebury

See Conservative, page 6

Editor's Note

We regret that last week's print edition of *The Middlebury Campus* contained several formatting errors, all of which occurred while the paper was at the press and out of our hands. Three articles had larger type size and did not finish. Benjamin Salkowe's article "College Continues Bicentennial Citizen Medal Tradition" appears in its entirety in this issue on page 7. We have resolved the issue with our printer and hope to avoid future incidents of this sort. Many thanks to our print subscribers for your patience. Please address any concerns to campus@middlebury.edu

GLBTQ Issues Reappear on Middlebury's Radar Screen

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

til that incident, Middlebury had been making noteworthy strides in fostering a social climate hospitable to diversity.

Rewind to 1998, when Middlebury was in the midst of one of its most acute internal social crises in its 200-year history.

The Breaking Point

In the fall of that year, a conservative guide to the nation's top 100 colleges praised Middlebury as "a rarity in higher education today in that multiculturalist talk seems to be waning rather than gathering strength." Either the editors of "Choosing the Right College" were unaware of events that rocked the campus community five months earlier, or they chose to ignore them. By the time the Intercollegiate Studies Institute's 672-page volume hit bookstores, Middlebury had weathered a firestorm of internal criticism over its perceived failure to address the concerns of non-majority groups and, as a result, had launched a full-scale audit of campus diversity.

Two separate incidents provoked student outcry — the destruction of a closet built in October 1997 by moqa members and the publication of a racist and, some say, homophobic ad in the April Fools edition of *The Campus* the following spring. The ad depicted three black men with a caption that said the College was admitting "drug users, gang members, rapists, arsonists" to "increase the excitement in this sleepy Vermont town" and to counter the image of the typical Middlebury student, labeled as a "pansy."

Many students, moqa members in particular, argued the administration's response to the spoof advertisement was inadequate. While President John McCardell said *The Campus* had made a mistake in judgment, the then-newly formed Student Coalition for a Safer Community demanded a statement recognizing that racism, sexism and homophobia were problems on campus. Local newspapers reported that McCardell only conceded after "much prodding" by the 150 students gathered on McCullough Lawn.

In addition to wanting formal acknowledgement that Middlebury was not, in fact, immune to racism, sexism and homophobia, moqa and other student groups called for an office of minority affairs, more faculty from underrepresented groups, "a gender studies/queer house" and an assessment of the College's race studies and gender studies programs.

Around the time of the protest, then-Professor of Economics Richard Cornwall, an openly gay member of faculty who had taught at Middlebury for 21 years, tendered his letter of resignation, area newspapers reported. The climate surrounding gay issues at Middlebury was hostile, he said.

"It was a breaking point, a crisis," says Kevin Moss, professor of Russian.

McCardell soon commissioned the College's Human Relations Committee to "assess, systematically and comprehensively, the current campus climate on diversity."

The Committee submitted its findings to Old Chapel in March 1999. McCardell endorsed the report, and just over a year later, Associate Professor of German Roman Graf became Middlebury's first associate provost for institutional diversity. The new administrative department was given a broad mandate to oversee the College's diversity affairs — from the classroom to the admissions office to the social arena and beyond.

From Point A to Point B?

To say that the events of 1998 paved the way for continuous progress towards accepting and understanding the GLBTQ community at Middlebury would be untrue. The last six years have been peppered with obstacles and small victories alike.

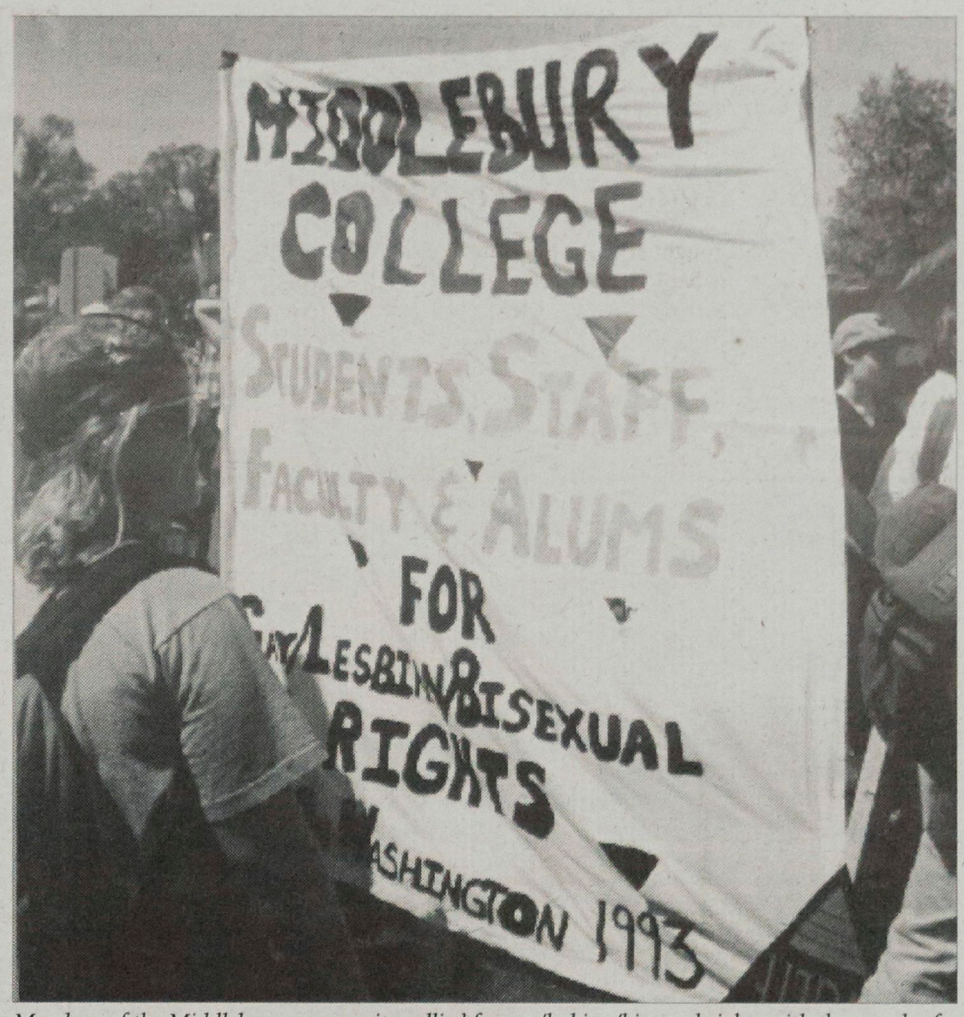
In September 1999, the moqa bulletin board in McCullough was vandalized. At the time, Moss called the incident "a minor act of terrorism." Moss, himself, is no stranger to such discrimination, having had a number of posters defaced or torn from his office door during his 20 years at the College. He returned to his office one day about four years ago to find the phrase "All fags should die" written on a flyer he had posted on his door in memory of Matthew Shepard.

The closet once again became a symbolic battleground last fall when it was vandalized and demolished after surviving a week in the College's main quad. "At least, this time around, the closet was allowed to stand for most of the week," then-moqa Co-convenor Chris Atwood '03 told *The Middlebury Campus*. "Maybe Middlebury has experienced tepid progress."

After establishing the Office of Institutional Diversity in 2000, the College followed up by hiring its first full-time women's and gender studies (WAGS) professor the next year. And in another step toward greater recognition of the GLBTQ community, Middlebury added gender identity and expression to its non-discrimination clause this July — 13 years after it became one of the first colleges in the nation to officially prohibit discrimination based on "sexual orientation."

Demands for a "queer" house on campus have gone unanswered, although Chellis House, first established in 1993 as a "safe space" for women, currently serves a similar purpose for moqa.

This year's increasingly visible GLBTQ community harkens back to the early 90s when the College's tendency towards increased dialogue about sexuality was palpable, if not always inclusive. The Opinions pages of *The Campus* were bursting with debate over homosexuality. A submission published in April 1991 that called homosexuality "unnatural" and "evil" was one of several to condemn members of the GLBTQ community. Moss, in his own article to the college paper, wrote, "I am both concerned and encouraged by recent discussions in *The Campus*." Such a response is not uncommon



Members of the Middlebury community rallied for gay/lesbian/bisexual rights with thousands of others in Washington in 1993. PHOTOGRAPH COURTESY OF MOQA.

— as long as the issues are on the table, progress is a possibility, many say.

The Silence

There is no denying the existence of homophobic discourse at Middlebury. A number of openly gay students interviewed for this series — who never knew the Middlebury of 1998 — testified that they or someone they knew had been called a "faggot" or had received threatening voicemail and whiteboard messages from other students.

Birkett, who chose Middlebury for its sprawling bucolic campus — "This is heaven," he remembers thinking — and its reputation for languages, says, "There is only so much you can expect. Middlebury is not a horribly repressive place," he says. "It may not be as liberal as Greenwich Village, but it is certainly better than most places."

More than vandalism, threatening comments or engrained homophobia, the silence surrounding sex and sexuality on campus is considered by many to be the GLBTQ community's greatest challenge.

When Karl Whittington '04 came out to some friends at Middlebury three years ago, few people were talking about sexuality. Now, although there is "still way to much silence," the increasingly visible GLBTQ community is fast becoming a social and a support network for both those who are "out" and those still questioning their sexuality, he says.

The climate at Middlebury is "accepting," says Elise Harris '06, who self-identifies as a lesbian. "Even though Middlebury describes itself as a liberal, open-minded place, people here are accepting when they first hear [about my sexuality] and then they never talk about it again."

"To accept difference, you have to discuss difference," says Colin Penley '05.5, one of moqa's four co-presidents and also a junior counselor in Stewart Hall. Penley, who does not know "many people on campus who are as out" as he is, has noticed a changing climate on campus — Middlebury is more open, he says. "This year, there are a lot more people who are out in general."

While many openly gay and bisexual students will take a stand when a friend or acquaintance uses homophobic language, some are still uncomfortable about "outing" themselves in a classroom setting.

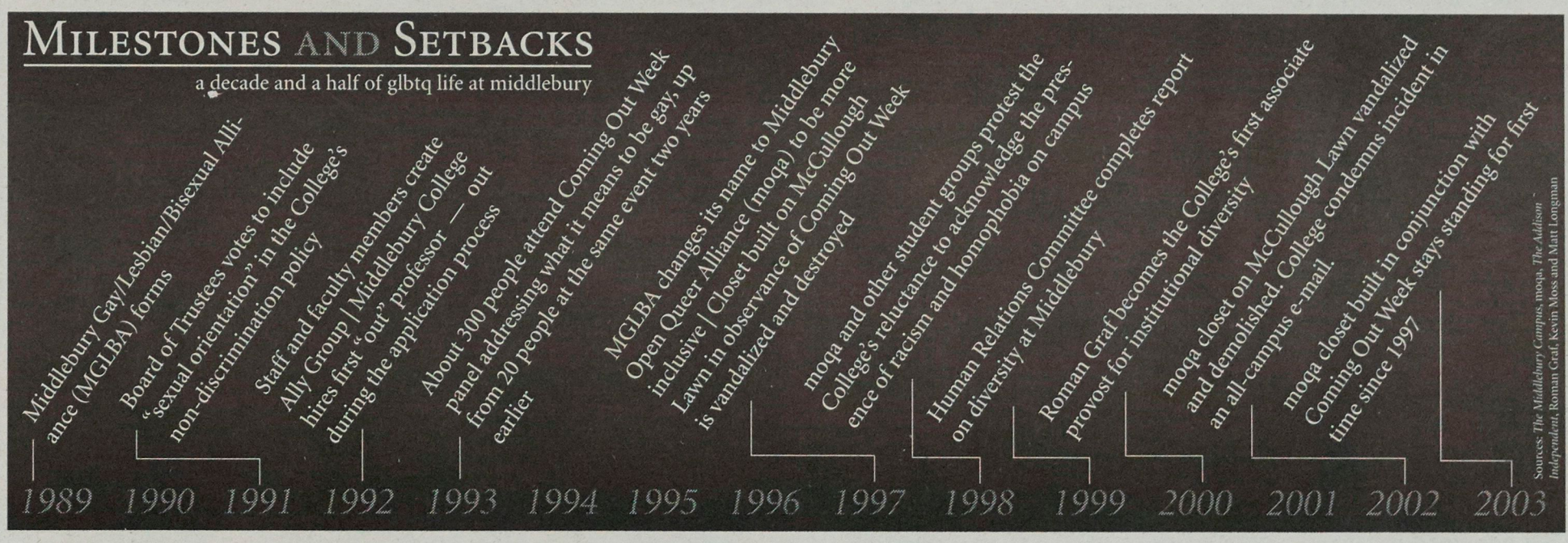
Which is not to say that Middlebury has failed to diversify its curriculum to include classes — not just limited to the WAGS department — that address queer theory and other topics relevant to the GLBTQ community. All four of Whittington's classes this semester — two in art history, one in religion and one in French — have touched on sexuality and queer identity. "These issues are on people's radar screens," he says.

Moqa has done its part this semester to bring GLBTQ issues to the table, and it will continue to organize events throughout the year to promote visibility, education and acceptance.

"It is my job to break the silence. But it's not just my job. And it's not just because I'm gay," says Jason Siegel '06, an active moqa member.

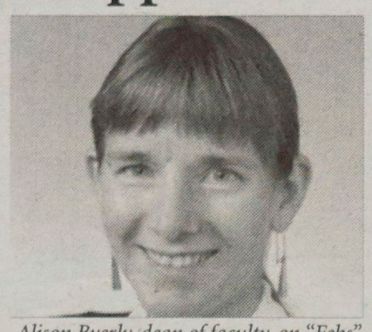
Is this year a turning point in Middlebury's relationship with its GLBTQ community? By most accounts, it promises to be. With the College's Ally Group mobilizing to become an official student organization with a budget to hold lectures, symposia and social events, the increase in "out" students on campus and notable attendance at moqa- and Ally-sponsored events, the 2003-04 academic year could mark a permanent changing of the tides.

"We're on the right track," Moss says.

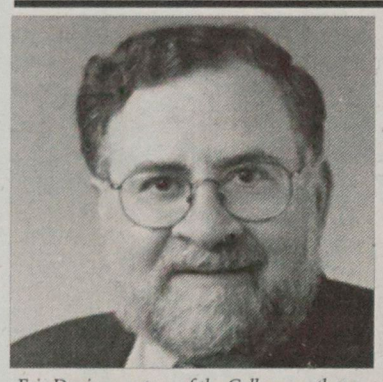

MILESTONES AND SETBACKS
a decade and a half of glbtq life at middlebury
1989 Middlebury Gay/Lesbian/Bisexual Alliance (MGLBA) forms
1990 Board of Trustees votes to include "sexual orientation" in the College's non-discrimination policy
1991 Staff and faculty members create Ally Group | Middlebury College hires first "out" professor — out during the application process
1992 About 300 people attend Coming Out Week panel addressing what it means to be gay, up from 20 people at the same event two years earlier
1993 MGLBA changes its name to Middlebury Open Queer Alliance (moqa) to be more inclusive | Closet built on McCullough Lawn in observance of Coming Out Week is vandalized and destroyed
1994
1995
1996 moqa and other student groups protest the College's reluctance to acknowledge the presence of racism and homophobia on campus
1997 Human Relations Committee completes report on diversity at Middlebury
1998 Roman Graf becomes the College's first associate provost for institutional diversity
1999 moqa closet on McCullough Lawn vandalized and demolished. College condemns incident in an all-campus e-mail.
2000 moqa closet built in conjunction with Coming Out Week stays standing for first time since 1997
2001
2002
2003
Sources: The Middlebury Campus, moqa, The Addison Independent, Roman Graf, Kevin Moss and Matt Longman

What Would Happen If Winter Term Disappeared?

In our Winter Term discussions on the Educational Affairs Committee, we have so far been working on the assumption that a change to a semester calendar, should we pursue that option, would not require the elimination of the Feb program. If we were on a semester calendar, we would simply bring those spring admission students to campus a few weeks earlier. We could even continue to call them "Febs" for the sake of tradition.



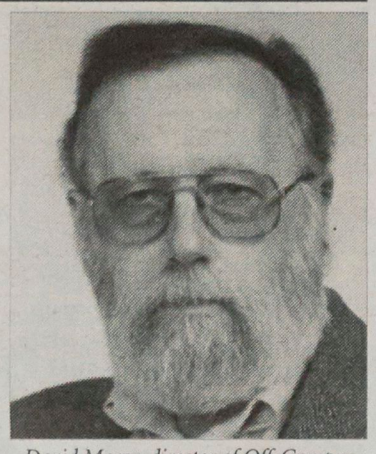
Alison Byerly, dean of faculty, on "Febs"



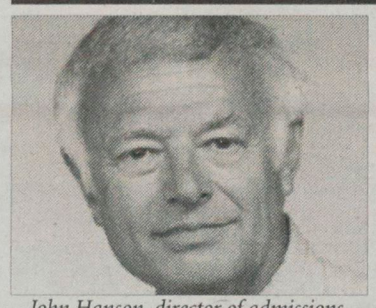
Eric Davis, secretary of the College, on theses

Under a semester calendar, departments with two-unit thesis programs would have to make other alternatives available to their students who plan to complete their Middlebury requirements in the middle of the year. Among the alternatives that could be considered would be writing a two-unit thesis in the fall term (taking only two courses in addition to the thesis), or writing a thesis that extends over two semesters of a calendar year. We would want to consult more fully with departments about these options.

Middlebury expects the fullest possible integration of our students abroad into the local culture and strongly encourages direct enrollment into foreign institutions. Unfortunately, the U.S. academic calendar does not mesh well with the academic calendar in most of Europe where fall semesters and exams normally end in late January or early February. However, because of Middlebury's J-Term, our students have always been able to stay for the end of classes and exams. If we want to maintain the academic integrity of study abroad and encourage direct enrollment wherever possible, the elimination of J-Term would force students who study abroad for one semester only to study in the spring semester.



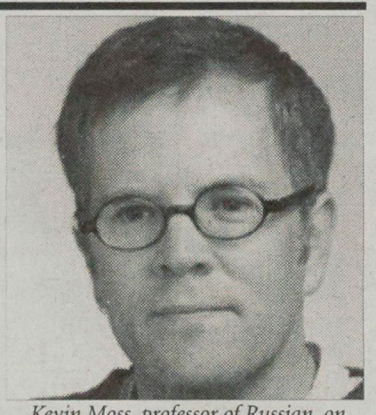
David Macey, director of Off-Campus Study, on study abroad



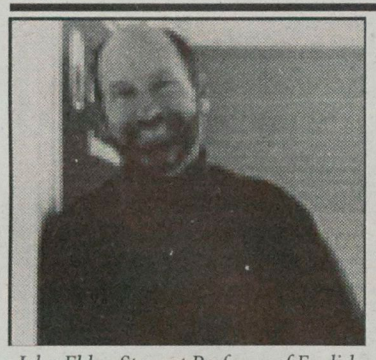
John Hanson, director of admissions, on admissions

The major implication for admissions if J-Term were eliminated, would be that we simply would describe a different academic calendar than the current one. Most of the positive reactions we hear have to do with the College's acknowledgment that not all subject matter is equally well-taught by the same methodology, with the same degree of frequency or intensity, and/or in the same environment. My crystal ball isn't clear enough to foresee any consequences.

Ideally, the Russian Department would run J-Term like a smaller version of the Russian School in the summer. For many years we taught three hours a day, five days a week. Add on Russian Table and evening cultural activities and the hours of language exposure provide a program that is pedagogically much stronger than a regular semester, even of 12 weeks. There was a time when the college was more committed to upholding the quality of the language programs, one of the few things that set Middlebury apart from all other similar colleges; now I regret that that level of commitment is no longer there.



Kevin Moss, professor of Russian, on Beginning Russian



John Elder, Stewart Professor of English and Environmental Studies on Comps

I like the fact that during Winter Term, our seniors can devote themselves entirely to a senior experience which culminates in an oral exam and includes a number of writing exercises. But it is also an experience in which every senior English major is together in an intense several weeks of study, conversation and public events. But the quality of the experience is the main thing, not the calendar. And if we didn't have this calendar we would just have to think hard about whether there was some equivalent we could come up with in a different calendar.

Internships have become almost a prerequisite. In fact, in a few fields they are. But in many fields they are critical, and it's competitive. My biggest concern would be about the loss of the concentrated internship time of the students. [Winter Term] is a wonderful time to do this kind of thing. And one of the benefits too is that a lot of the places are not overwhelmed with interns like they are in the summer. It's unusual that students are available for a month in January, so I think they get some pretty good opportunities because of that.

Jaye Roseborough and Claire Tetrault (above) on internships

Alumni Reminisce on Winters Past

By Andrea Gissing
News Editor

'The best part of [Winter Term] is that it gave me the opportunity to have experiences that have changed my life — experiences that can only be lived, not taught from a book." Elizabeth Del Rosario's '03 sentiments reflected those expressed by many alumni when presented with the opportunity to voice their thoughts on the month-long term currently under review at Middlebury College.

Questions about the value of Winter Term, affectionately known as "J-Term," unleashed a flood of memories and strong opinions from Middlebury alumni who attended the College after 1969, the year when Winter Term made its debut. Then-President James Armstrong was a leading advocate of the term, saying that both students and faculty would benefit from the flexibility and freedom offered by the month-long reprieve between the fall and spring semesters.

Opponents argue that Winter Term is viewed more as an invitation to relax than as a time for substantive academic endeavors. However many alumni disagree. "I definitely worked hard during J-term and liked being able to devote all of my energy to one class," said Jen Crystal '00.5. "I definitely got more out of the class than I often did out of semester length courses, each of which I was trying to balance with three other courses."

Rich Gallup '01 argues that Winter Term offered a sneak preview of the demands he now faces in the real world. "The intense experience of J-Term independent study, forcing myself to do so much on an extremely tight schedule, prepared me for the demands of the real world better than any class I took in the fall or spring. I found that I could challenge — and demand more from myself — better than any of my professors," Gallup said.

Echoing other alumni, Stephen Olson '74 offered a potential solution to the perceived lack of rigor in Winter Term courses. "If the problem is that professors are offering 'gut' courses," said Olson, "that is hardly the fault of either the students or the concept. It seems that the courses that were stimulating and challenging were popular, and people got a lot out of it. There is no intrinsic reason why the course load should be lighter than during the regular semester. A teacher could hold classes for four hours a day, five days a week and throw out no-shows."

Kelly Hase '00 recalled that workloads varied widely by course. "I think the courses — like any other semester — can be extremely difficult, extremely easy and anywhere in between," she said.

However, instead of vehemently asserting that Winter Term was nothing but hard work, alumni welcomed the change of pace and the non-academic opportunities offered during January. "The luxury of J-Term is that you get the chance to give your undivided attention to one class," said Hase, "and then you get to explore Vermont, friends and extracurricular activities. It was a great change of pace and it helped energize me for the spring semester."

Michael Hartt '01 expressed similar sentiments. "J-Term is a huge part of the social scene at Middlebury as well," he said. "It provides a necessary break from the cold, dark winters of Vermont and gives us something fun to look forward to. Yes, there is more partying during J-Term, but only because Middlebury students like to do things, and during the middle of the winter, our ability to go outside is much more restricted."

And then there's skiing. "It's no secret that Middlebury attracts die-hard skiers," said Crystal, "and I think everyone appreciates the extra time over J-Term to ski and socialize. Having this time did not make me work any less, it just decreased my stress level and increased my love of the school."

Hartt added, "I'd much rather have a campus of kids who love that month of January, who are excited to be there for things like skiing and broomball and hockey games and so on, than those who return from Christmas to the doldrums of starting another academic semester."

What most alumni seem to feel strongly about is that Winter Term allowed them the opportunity to enjoy the full academic experience, without becoming overloaded. Del Rosario said, "J-Term was definitely a time to engage in academic pursuits but most importantly, it was a time to actually enjoy learning and being able to process new information. [This is] as opposed to the rest of the year where I often felt like I was just taking in information, without the time to enjoy the learning process."

Katherine Milgram '03 expressed similar sentiments. "[Winter Term] was integral in many different ways. I used it as a chance to explore academic interests, gain focus as a student, expand my extracurricular experiences at Middlebury, enjoy the Vermont we all tend to take for granted during the busy semester months and most importantly to enjoy Middlebury's breadth of curricular and extracurricular life."

While having a shortened term in January is not unique to Middlebury College, it is one of the aspects that the College is known for. "Middlebury has a good academic reputation with [Winter Term]," said Olsen, "and it helps to differentiate the College from others. Harvard has one approach to undergraduate education, St. Johns has another, the Massachusetts Institute of Technology another still. There is no need for homogeneity, and in fact having a diverse array of curriculums is probably in everybody's best interest."

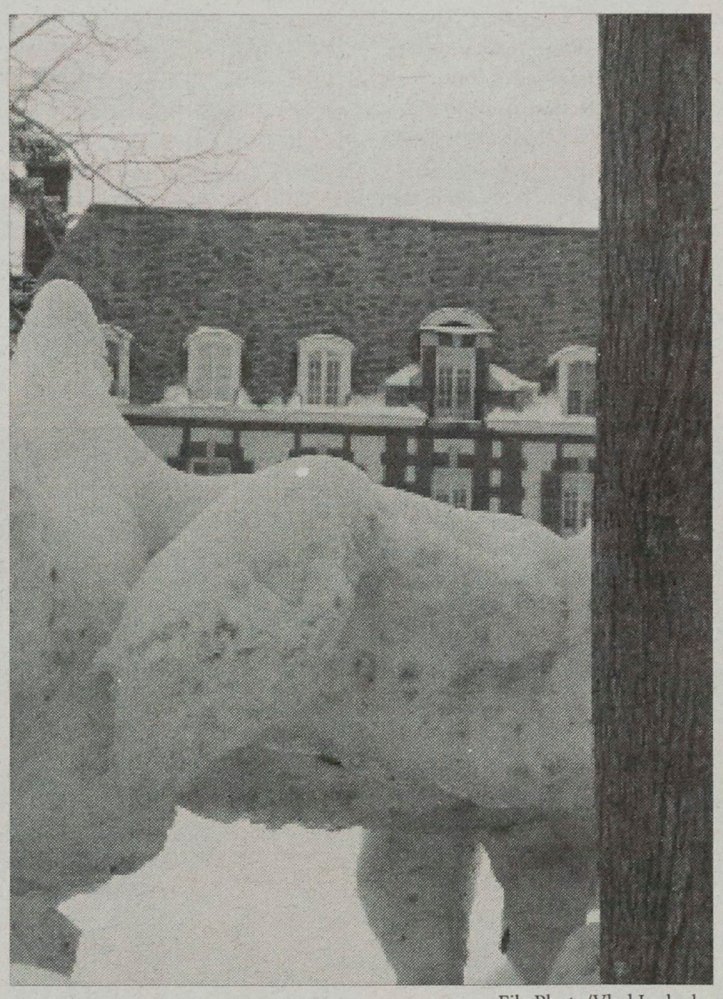
Since the inaugural Winter Term in 1969, administrative and faculty opinions on the subject have fluctuated. Student sentiment, however, seems to remain the same. "I strongly 'vote' for preserving Winter Term," said Franci Farnsworth '73, "with whatever changes will address the real issues raised by faculty and administration." These "real" issues include the costs associated with hiring visiting facuty, the time and cost to develop the Winter Term catalog and social problems and dorm damage that arise during the month of January.

Kevin King '02 agreed, saying, "Without J-Term, [Middlebury is] just another stressed-out NESCAC [school], where students have no chance during the year to try to learn differently or get 'outside the bubble' to apply what they have learned or gain new connections."

It is clear that Winter Term holds a special place in the memories of students who have experienced it. Concluded Crystal, "J-Term was by far my greatest and most memorable experience at Middlebury."

> What most alumni seem to feel strongly about is that Winter Term allowed them the opportunity to enjoy the full academic experience, without becoming overloaded.

Winter Wonderland



File Photo/Vlad Lodoaba

Looming in front of Le Chateau, *glacial branches become ice sculptures in the freezing winter months.*

Middlebury College Community Divided on 4-1-4 Term Schedule

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

study of a single subject" and provides a "venue for innovative and experimental teaching" are also documented as positive features of the term.

The faculty has identified a number of concerns about the current Winter Term program, many of which were actively voiced during the meeting. Some faculty members articulated that it is difficult to cover a "defined body of material" in the 12-week fall and spring semesters set by the 4-1-4 calendar.

Secretary of the College Eric Davis — who has been conducting research on academic calendars at the College's peer institutions — noted that a two-semester calendar would lengthen the fall and spring semesters to 14 weeks each.

According to the handout of common themes from the Bread Loaf discussion groups, the current compressed 12-week calendar "discourages innovative teaching."

The criticism raised most often during the faculty discussion the 4-1-4 calendar centered on the complaint that Winter Term is exhaustive for faculty who are forced to prepare for Winter Term while finishing up their fall term grading and prepare for Spring Term while still teaching a Winter Term class.

While faculty are required to teach one Winter Term course every other year, most of the faculty present during the meeting expressed alarm that certain faculty bear the burden of teaching Winter Term courses, while others teach fewer than their fair share. Certain faculty may be exempt from teaching Winter Term courses due to administrative obligations, while junior faculty members may experience pressure to teach more often.

According the handout, there is a "perception that course releases for senior faculty who chair departments of sit on major committees places disproportionate burden on junior faculty."

Faculty also questioned the academic rigor of certain Winter Term courses, specifically those taught by visiting faculty. While the term was initially envisioned as an opportunity to offer "pedagogically innovative courses," a number of faculty have voiced concern that this is no longer the case and that many courses taught during Winter Term are simply compressed fall or spring courses.

"'J-Term culture' defined by student expectations of low workload" also graces the list of faculty concerns about Winter Term.

Faculty discussion on Winter Term has remained stagnant since Oct. 13 while the Educational Affairs Committee (EAC) prepares a draft of two-semester calendars that may replace the 4-1-4 plan, but student interest on the topic is just beginning to heat up.

A poll of 261 students conducted by *The Middlebury Campus* showed that 97 percent of students are in favor of retaining Winter Term.

The Student Educational Affairs Committee (SEAC) has been working since September, according to chair Stephen Clarke '04, to "collectively and actively seek out faculty opinion."

The Campus poll represents the first organized effort to assess student opinion. Clarke's committee has worked on the widely accepted assumption that students are overwhelming in favor of keeping Winter Term.

But Clarke is quick to point out that the current evaluation of Winter Term is "not entirely a keep it or heap it debate. In order to keep J-Term we are going to have to change it."

Clarke's committee expects to receive a very preliminary draft of the alternative calendar from the EAC this week. The SEAC plans to bring the debate to students in an open forum next week.

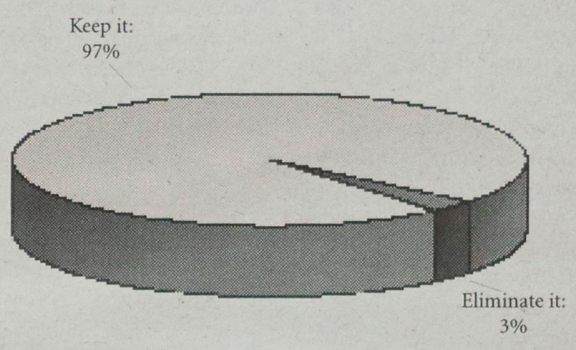
While Clarke said that the event will be "widely publicized," he expects to hear from students with a strong opinion. He noted that the SEAC wants to know what students "don't like about J-Term" along with what they do like about the term.

In response to faculty criticism of Winter Term, Clarke responded ,"If it's compromising teaching, it's been doing it since 1968." But he is quick to point out that the SEAC "wants to enhance J-Term for faculty and students, and forge creative compromise." For now, Clarke urges students to share their opinions with their professors. "It is probably going to be a close vote. Students need to be active.

Middlebury Students Speak: J-Term Poll Results

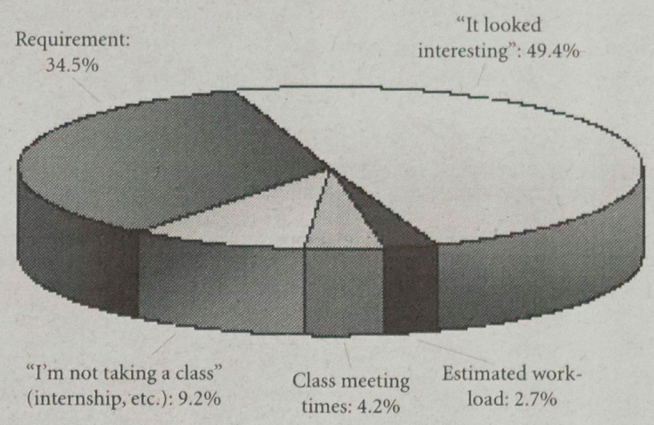
THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS' WINTER TERM POLL WAS CONDUCTED AT ROSS AND FREEMAN DINING HALLS ON NOV. 7 AND 8. A TOTAL OF 261 STUDENTS REPRESENTING ALL CLASSES WERE SURVEYED. THEIR RESPONSES WERE COMPILED AND ARE SHOWN ABOVE. *THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS* THANKS THE STUDENT BODY FOR ITS PARTICIPATION.

To Keep or Not to Keep



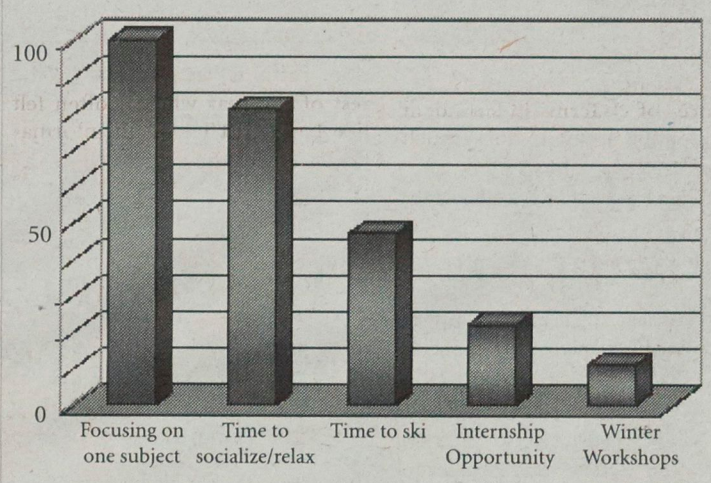
QUESTION: SHOULD MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE KEEP WINTER TERM?

Class Choice Criteria



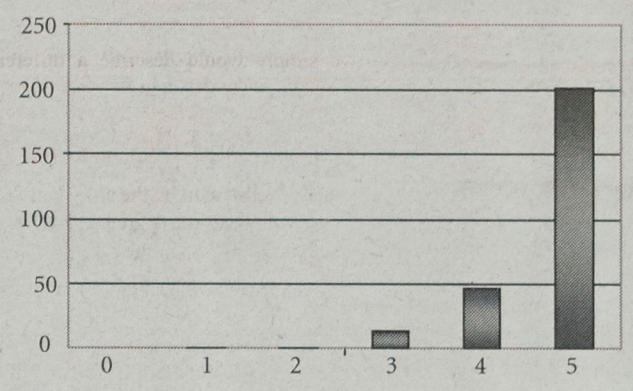
QUESTION: WHAT MOST INFLUENCED YOUR WINTER TERM COURSE SELECTION THIS TERM?

Favorite Part of Winter Term



QUESTION: YOUR FAVORITE PART OF J-TERM IS...

Importance of Winter Term



QUESTION: HOW IMPORTANT IS WINTER TERM TO THE MIDDLEBURY EXPERIENCE? 0 = NOT IMPORTANT AT ALL, 5 = EXTREMELY IMPORTANT

ANONYMOUS AND UNCENSORED: POLL COMMENTS

IF J-TERM GOES, I TRANSFER TO BOWDOIN.

KEEP IT. COLLEGE SHOULDN'T ONLY BE ABOUT STRESS.

THERE ARE ACADEMIC PROS TO J-TERM TOO. IT'S NOT ALL JUST FUN AND GAMES.

J-TERM IS NECESSARY. IT HELPS BREAK UP THE SEMESTERS WHILE STILL ALLOWING STUDENTS TO PURSUE ACADEMIC INTERESTS.

J-TERM IS WHY I CAME TO MIDDLEBURY.

J-TERM ENABLES ALL OF US TO EXPERIMENT, TRY NEW COURSES AND DO SOMETHING DIFFERENT.

J-TERM IS REFRESHING WHILE EDUCATIONAL, AND IT MADE ME REALLY LOVE MIDDLEBURY BECAUSE I GOT TO KNOW PEOPLE BETTER.

WINTER TERM IS NOT ACADEMIC SLACKING OFF. I WOULD TRANSFER IF WINTER TERM WERE CANCELLED.

WITHOUT J-TERM MY CHINESE WOULD NOT BE NEARLY AS GOOD.

QUOTATIONS ON FACING PAGES COMPILED BY JOSHUA CARSON, NEWS EDITOR

College Conservatives Grow Steadily in Number

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

is all about," she said.

Associate Professor of Political Science Matthew Dickinson, known for not wearing his political ideology on his sleeve, has noticed a Republican reticence.

Dickinson explained how he devotes the beginning of each class period to a discussion of current events, and that he is very careful not present a "right or wrong policy."

He even echoed the UCLA polls results by stating, "The vast majority of students have conservative leanings, but are not politically active.

Generally speaking," he continued, "the more vocal students are liberally minded," thus making students who espouse more conservative ideals feel outnumbered.

If the attendance of weekly College Democrats is any indication for comparison, anywhere from 17 to 27 students show up to discuss their left-wing beliefs, according to Jon Brand '05.5, chair of the club.

Ruminating on Apathy

Activism surrounding Ari Fleisher's visit to campus last fall threw into sharp relief the reigning political apathy of the late 1990s.

As students, "We have a hard time deciding whether we are apathetic or just busy," Pugsley commented.

Both Pugsley and Davies have never hesitated to voice their political opinions in class, and have felt comfortable that Middlebury professors have consistently mediated an unbiased forum for political discussion.

Middlebury's curriculum is known as a "classical" liberal arts education, ensuring that college students receive a politically impartial education rather than a professor's indoctrination.

Politicized teaching, however, has been the topic of recent debate within a group of House Republicans.

Last month, the group called on national colleges and universities to adopt an academic bill of rights to instill such intellectual independence in the classroom. The bill was introduced at the same time when the Independent Women's Forum released a study saying that classical freshmen courses at some of the best liberal-arts colleges — such as Bowdoin, Swarthmore, Williams and Amherst — have been supplanted by alternatives that disregard the achievements of Western Civilization.

SNEAKY SCAVENGER

Schuyler Van Horn

Loitering outside a Proctor entrance, *a hungry squirrel cautiously nibbles at pumpkins left over from Halloween.*

Unlocked Student Bikes Continue to Disappear

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

terviewed some bike "borrowers," who commented anonymously on the increase in theft. One student referenced the yellow bikes specifically, claiming he steals any bike as "an uprising against the fact that there are not enough yellow bikes [on Campus]."

Some collect bikes from various places on campus (both while drunk and while sober) and then park them outside their own dormitories, ready for their own use.

Though Public Safety would tend to disagree, one bike "borrower" claims he does not consider this action theft "because we don't sell it to a chop shop. Stealing requires removing it from campus. We don't damage them." And, of course, they "made a pact not to take bikes with shocks."

Do these "borrowers" ever feel any kind of remorse? "No, because it happened to me. Security found my bike in a ditch across from Stewart," one explained. And what would happen now if they caught someone stealing a bike they stole? "Wonderful irony! But then I'd chase them."

According to these students, "the most frustrating part is when you come outside and see someone boosting the bike that you just boosted."

Public Safety has record of 24 "boostings" in the month of October, up from just four in September. According to Boudah, this may reflect an increase in the number of students registering their bikes and reporting theft rather than a dramatic increase in theft itself. Also, the Department now makes a more concerted effort to keep statistics of bike theft on campus.

"We are trying to get better with reporting to create awareness that this is actually happening. We had people [unofficially] report bike theft, but it was not reported to the community. [The deans] have commented that thefts are really up. We tell them, 'There would be an increase because now we are telling you [about them],'" explained Boudah.

PUBLIC SAFETY LOG

DATE	TIME	INCIDENT	CATEGORY	LOCATION	DISPOSITION
11/4/03	2:15 p.m.	Vandalism	Lawn	Harris Farm	No Suspects
11/4/03	11:45 p.m.	Vandalism	Window	Atwater	No Suspects
11/8/03	3:00 a.m.	Vandalism	Vending Machine	Stewart	Open
11/9/03	2:40 a.m.	Assault	Simple	Coffrin	Open

COLLEGESHORTS

By Joshua Carson and Megan O'Keefe

Penn State Pays for Student Music Downloads

Pennsylvaina State University has reached a deal with Napster online service to provide graduate and undergraduate students access to unlimited MP3s.

The University will cover the cost of the service, $9.95 for the general public, from the $160 information technology fee that students pay each year. While the University promises that all 83,000 Penn State students across the state will be able to download the music legally, there are some limitations to the revamped Napster file-sharing service.

Each song is programmed using copy-protection software to play on only three computers and if students want to keep the songs after they graduate or to burn a CD, the student must first pay the standard 99 cent fee.

The new relationship between Napster and Penn State comes in the wake of several law suites pressed by the music industry alleging that college students are trading music illegally over the internet. Students are quick to point out, however, that they do not view their actions as stealing and predict the copy-protection will be circumvented.

"There's been a lot of attention paid to students as criminals," said Ian Rosenberger, president of the undergraduate student government. But "people who download don't see themselves that way."

Source: *The New York Times*

Arabic Leads Rise in Foreign Language Study

Enrollment in Arabic courses rose 92.5 percent at U.S. universities and colleges from 1998 to 2002, a study from the New York-based Modern Language Association found.

The number of U.S. university students learning Arabic rose sharply after the September 11, 2001 attacks, reflecting a greater interest in Arab countries. The association's executive director, Rosemary Feal, said, "There is no doubt increases in Arabic have been significant since 9/11, but they have been significant in other languages too. Arabic stands out more but it stands out among many peaks.

Those results include a 59 percent rise in Biblical Hebrew since 1998. "Professors tell us students are not only interested in the recent past but in the distant past," Feal said. "Scholars of religion are turning to Biblical Hebrew just as scholars of some other religions should know Latin."

The number of students enrolled in foreign language courses increased by 17.9 percent to 1,407,440 in 2002 from 1,193,830 in 1998. The total was the highest recorded since the group's first survey in 1958.

Since 1970, Spanish has been the most widely taught language in the United States. In 2002, Spanish accounted for 53 percent of total foreign language enrollments. French and German were the next most popular.

Source: *Reuters*

'The Best of TIPS' Program Meets with Swift Approval

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

hour-long class, it will last no more than 45 minutes, said Sullivan of the proposed legislation.

"The ultimate goal of Community Council with regards to TIPS training is to make the process more accessible and to enable students to meet the requirements of hosting a party in a more effective fashion," she added.

The proposal, presented by Adams at Tuesday's meeting, met with overwhelming support from the Community Council and was approved unanimously. Following Adams' brief outline of the proposal, Dean of Student Affairs and Faculty Co-Chair of Community Council Ann Hanson moved that the proposed sessions, which can last anywhere from 30 minutes to an hour, be required each semester for students hosting parties. Hanson's revision was incorporated into the final approved legislation.

"Ninety percent of functions on campus are hosted by one person once," said Doug Adams, the primary author of the reform legislation. At Tuesday's meeting, Adams called the new training sessions a "Best of TIPS" program.

He explained that the proposed reforms would allow students who do not normally host parties to obtain permission for hosting without going through the lengthy, inconvenient TIPS process. The current TIPS training program is a three-hour-long class held about once a month. Upon completion of the program, students of legal drinking age are permitted to host registered on-campus parties and serve alcohol.

Adams emphasized that, by approving the proposal, Community Council members were not eliminating the current training program. TIPS training will continue to be held once a month and twice in January.

Students who complete the TIPS training process will still be eligible to host registered parties and serve alcohol for the remainder of their time at Middlebury, while students who attend the new sessions will only be able to host parties for that particular semester. According to Donahue, most social houses will continue to require that their pledges go through the original TIPS program.

According to Sullivan, "there has not been significant clamor about parties and TIPS training," but the apparent connection between the program's flaws and a decline in registered parties on campus has forced the Council to take action.

"We have been waiting to resolve the issue of TIPS training for a while now," said Sullivan, "but we as a body have been occupied over the past few weeks with addressing proposed changes to the sexual assault policy. I am eager to see the proposal implemented soon. I think it represents positive change to the current practice of TIPS training."

College Continues Citizen Medal Tradition

By Benjamin Salkowe
Staff Writer

Addressing families at the second Fall Family Weekend, President John McCardell noted that Middlebury College shares a special relationship with the local community, having been "founded by and named after the town."

The following day, he made actions of his words when he presented seven Middlebury community members with Middlebury College Bicentennial Citizens' Awards.

"These awards recognize the close and historic relationship of the College and town of Middlebury," McCardell remarked at a reception Sunday Nov. 2 before the ceremony's dinner.

The 2003 medals were awarded to Dr. Diana Barnard, Patricia Boera, Betty Jo Calhoun, Helen G. Haerle, Henry B. Prickitt, Lawrence E. Volkert and Gregory Wry.

In a press release, Secretary of the College Eric Davis explained the criteria. "The medals [are] presented to residents of Addison County who have helped strengthen the community and whose service has been sustained and distinguished. Oftentimes, their efforts have gone unrecognized for many years," he wrote.

Although the College's actual bicentennial was in 2000, the award ceremony is an annual affair to demonstrate "that the town and the College share both a history and a future," Davis said.

Nominations for the medals were taken from members of the College community, with the final selections being made by McCardell and others in the administration.

Barnard provides medical services to underserved patients through Middlebury Family Health and also Community Health Services of Addison County Open Door Clinic. She is a member of the Porter Hospital Ethics and Palliative Care Committees and the Middlebury-based nonprofit Virtual Foundation.

Boera has been the associate director of career planning at Champlain College for 13 years, the director of Middlebury's Festival-on-the-Green for 25 years and also a volunteer at the Henry Sheldon Museum of Vermont History. She has also volunteered for the Middlebury Community Players and the Middlebury Business Association.

Calhoun has served the Frog Hollow Vermont State Craft Center both on the board of directors and as the organization's acting director. She was the auditor of the town of Cornwall and a member of the town's planning commission for nine years. She acted as treasurer of the capital campaign of the Addison County Humane Society for two years. She was also a member of the Middlebury Volunteer Ambulance Association for nine years and the Porter Medical Center Auxiliary for six years.

Haerle worked at Lazarus Department Store from 1974 to 1984 and owned and operated the store from 1984 to 1996. She was a founding board member of Addison County Home Health Care and an active member of the Middlebury Business Association from 1984 to 1996. She also served on the board of directors of Middlebury Union High School from 1970 to 1977 and on the Middlebury Planning Commission since 1996.

Prickitt, Henry Norman Hundson professor emeritus of English, is on the board of the Addison County Community Action Group, the United Way of Addison County and Hospice Volunteer Services, where he currently holds the position of board president, as well. An honorary trustee of the Henry Sheldon Museum of Vermont History, Prickett is also one of the founders of the Middlebury Community Players.

> There are many ties of friendship that bind those who work and study at the College with those who live in town but have no formal College connection.
>
> — John McCardell

Volkert works at Shaw's Supermarket in Middlebury. Volkert was the chairman of the town's Memorial Day Parade for 27 years and is currently the treasurer of the Middlebury Volunteer Fire Department, an organization he has served for 19 years. He also serves as treasurer and on the board of directors of the Middlebury Community Players.

Wry, owner of Greg's Meat Market for 22 years, has been a leading volunteer and member of the Middlebury Lions Club for 21 years and of the Middlebury Business Association for four years.

Beyond recognizing those "whose service was in many ways unsung," McCardell said the awards recognize the College's special relationship with the town, a relationship that plays a role in the liberal arts education. "Students who come here are a part of the campus community, to be sure, but are also members of the larger community that is the town of Middlebury," he said.

It is this perspective that sets Middlebury apart from so many of its peer institutions. In the popular Princeton Review's Best 351 College Rankings, Connecticut College, Bates College and the University of Pennsylvania are all highlighted for their "strained town-gown relations."

Just before Middlebury celebrated the bicentennial of its founding by the town in 2000, community and college relationships in Williamstown were so tried that *The Williams Record* reported, "Relations between Williams College and the community are so strained that the only way the community can make its voice heard is to threaten to institutionalize an antagonistic stance towards the College."

While McCardell would not call the friendly "town-gown" relations of Middlebury unique, he noted, "There are many ties of friendship that bind those who work and study at the College with those who live in town but have no formal College connection."

Aside from opportunities for employment and work-study opportunities for students, as well as good dining and entertainment, there is no disputing that the interaction of town members on campus contributes to the Middlebury experience. McCardell noted, "Perhaps the very best place, of many, to witness that reality, is at a home hockey game in Kenyon Arena."

The Middlebury Campus

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EDITORIAL

Rallying Behind J-Term

The students have spoken.

As the faculty launches its review of Winter Term, a commanding majority of respondents to *The Middlebury Campus*' poll expressed support for the one-month, one-course interlude between the fall and spring semesters.

Ninety seven percent said Winter Term should be preserved. An additional 77 percent ranked it integral to the Middlebury experience.

The statistics amount to nothing less than a "save J-Term" consensus in the student body. The editorial board of *The Campus* now joins this chorus of support for Winter Term, which we consider a hallmark of the curriculum.

The faculty is wise to periodically reassess Winter Term's role in the academic calendar. The goal, however, should be to strengthen the Middlebury tradition — not to eliminate it.

Winter Term is part and parcel of Middlebury's vision for higher education. The College's curriculum —steeped in the liberal arts — aims to combine depth and breadth of academic experience.

Winter Term can inspire both. Unfettered by the competing pressures of the regular semester, students channel their energy into a discipline of their choice, be it in their specialty or the farthest thing from it.

Physics majors may take a leap of faith and enroll in a dance class, stretching their academic horizons. Senior English majors, on the other hand, are obligated to sign up for senior comprehensive examinations to consolidate the knowledge they've already acquired in the field.

To borrow words from the College Catalog: "This intensely concentrated term allows students to gain great efficiency in learning as they study a single technique, problem or body of material."

When we asked alumni reflect on their Winter Term experiences, personal narratives poured in. Their fond memories powerfully confirm Winter Term's role in the Middlebury experience. For some, it was the single most memorable part of their college careers.

There's no denying that Winter Term also enlivens the otherwise dark, frigid month of January in Vermont. Activities ranging from skiing to snow shoeing to ice climbing lure students outdoors to take advantage of all the region's recreational offerings. The Winter Term course schedule thankfully enables this engagement with the outdoors in a way the traditional, four-course semester never could.

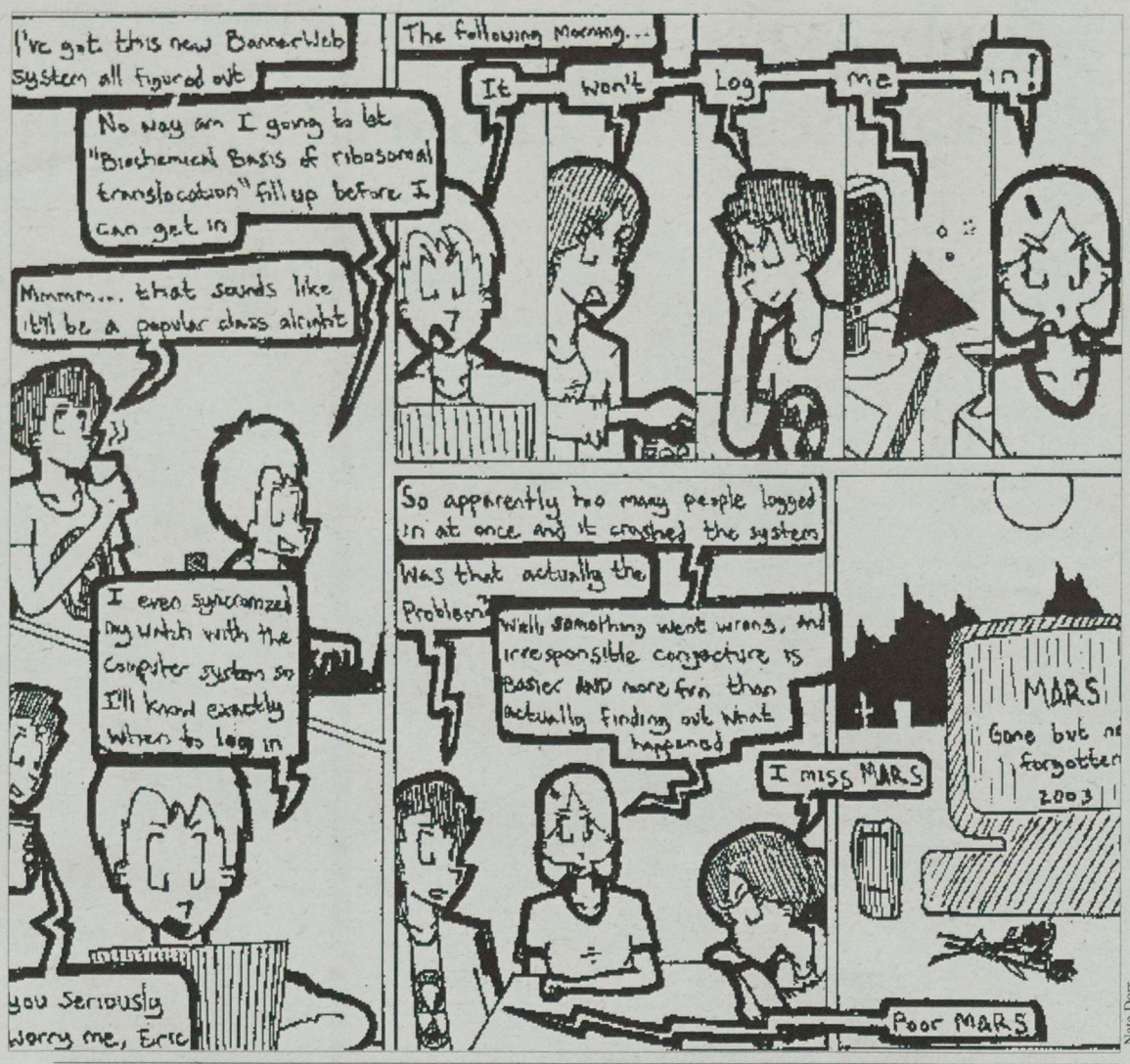
With a united voice, students and alumni alike rally behind Winter Term.

As *The Campus* probes Winter Term in its news coverage, the editorial board will continue to comment on key areas of concern: Will the Febs become Jans? What will become of the intensive Winter Term classes that are a staple of foreign language program?

For now, we ask the faculty to acknowledge student and alumni support for Winter Term by striving to strengthen the January tradition, not devise alternatives that bypass it.

OPINIONS SUBMISSION POLICY

The Opinions pages of *The Middlebury Campus* provide a forum for constructive and respectful dialogue on substantive issues. With this in mind, *The Campus* reserves the right to deny publication of all or part of a submission for any reason. This includes, but is not limited to: the making of assertions based on hearsay; the relation of private conversations; the libelous mention of unverifiable events; the use of vulgar language or personal attacks. Any segment of a submitted article that contains any of the aforementioned will be removed before publication. Contributors will be allowed to reference prior articles published in the Opinions section or announcements for the public record. If a reference is made to prior articles, the submission will be considered a letter to the editor. *The Campus* will not accept or print anonymous letters. The opinions expressed by contributors to the Opinions section, as well as reviews, columns, editorial comics and other commentary, are views of the individual contributors and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the newspaper. *The Campus* welcomes letters to the editor at 250 words or less, or opinions submissions at 800 words or less. Submit works directly to the Opinions Editor, Drawer 30, campus@middlebury.edu or via the paper's Web site at www.middleburycampus.com. To be considered for publications, submissions must be received by 5 p.m. Tuesday. *The Campus* reserves the right to edit all submissions.


I've got this new BannerWeb system all figured out
No way am I going to let "Biochemical Basis of ribosomal translocation" fill up before I can get in
Mmmm... that sounds like it'll be a popular class alright
I even synchronized my watch with the computer system so I'll know exactly when to log in
you Seriously worry me, Eric
The following morning...
It won't Log me in!
So apparently too many people logged in at once and it crashed the system
Was that actually the Problem?
Well, something went wrong, and irresponsible conjecture is easier and more fun than actually finding out what happened
I miss MARS
MARS
Gone but ne forgotten
2003
Poor MARS
Nate Dorr

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

To the Editor:

As the world listened to President Bush's idealistic and political redefinition of America's foreign policy in his speech to the National Endowment for Democracy last week, it seems we are forgetting a vital element for well-being: a healthy economy. Prosperity, history has shown, can also begin through economic change.

Take China. Its booming economy grew out of the market liberalization policies of a government that remains politically monolithic and ardently authoritarian. The Bush administration should concentrate on creating a stable, more liberal economy in Iraq. They need to replace the survival economy and black markets with a safe, controlled system where entrepreneurs can fearlessly initiate businesses. As the economy stabilizes, it should be liberalized into a free market economy.

It may not be in line with the democratic crusade Bush has propagated, nor with Iraqi conservativism, but in this post-ideological Cold War age where money is power, the Bush administration might try a different tack for success — economic success.

Joyce Man '06
International Studies Major
Hong Kong, China

To the Editor:

President Bush's refusal to acknowledge a recent incline in American casualties is both disrespectful and counterproductive. The Pentagon's ban on media coverage of the U.S. military mortuary in Dover, Del., coupled with Bush's silence, indicates governmental insecurity with the facts. I would much prefer our leader face the anguishing toll of his war — thereby affirming the precious cost of democracy — than watch the public be placated with patriotism.

At the very least, Bush's acknowledgment of our casualties would unite supporters and critics alike in the quest for an efficient exit plan from Iraq. Bush's directness is needed to remind the public of the danger tens of thousands of U.S. soldiers face, secure for them an appreciative homecoming and affirm the great memory of those sacrificed. He owes the dead at least that much.

Rachel Dunlap '06.5
English and Theater Major
Portland, Ore.

To the Editor:

How can Americans stand united on the war with Iraq when it is justified dishonestly? Bush gave us three main reasons for going to war: to combat terrorism, to eliminate weapons of mass destruction (WMD) and to promote democracy. The "combat terrorism" argument is rarely given anymore, as there was little or no evidence of Saddam being involved with 9/11. As for WMD, both Pakistan and North Korea have more active weapons than Iraq and have shown a willingness to use them. If Iraq had WMD, would they not have already attempted to employ them?

Then, the United States claims they will be in charge of setting up democracy in Iraq after its victory. Will this democracy be like those set up in Haiti, the Dominican Republic or Nicaragua, where our occupation has only laid the foundations for dictatorships? It seems to me that the argument for war would be much more compelling if there were some honest or justifiable reason given for it.

Danielle Barbeau '07
Undeclared
Woodstock, Conn.

To the Editor:

President Bush's rally for fresh troops in Iraq has become a concern not only to U.S. soldiers and their families, but also to the general civilian population that must foot the bill. The Senate has agreed to Bush's request for $87 billion to rehabilitate Iraq and Afghanistan, but questions over whether the U.S. military can truly transform Iraq persist. After all, what effective nation-building experience does the United States have?

Before signing off on billion-dollar tabs or sending thousands of additional soldiers, Bush needs to rethink whether military troops are adequate for the task. The real problem, after all, is changing the way people think, helping them overcome their fears and encouraging them to become involved in democratic institutions. Bush needs the help of veteran politicians and experts who can help bridge the cultural divide and communicate these ideas effectively. Only thus can America successfully establish a democratic government in Iraq.

Catherine Hu '06
International Studies Major
Ithaca, N.Y.

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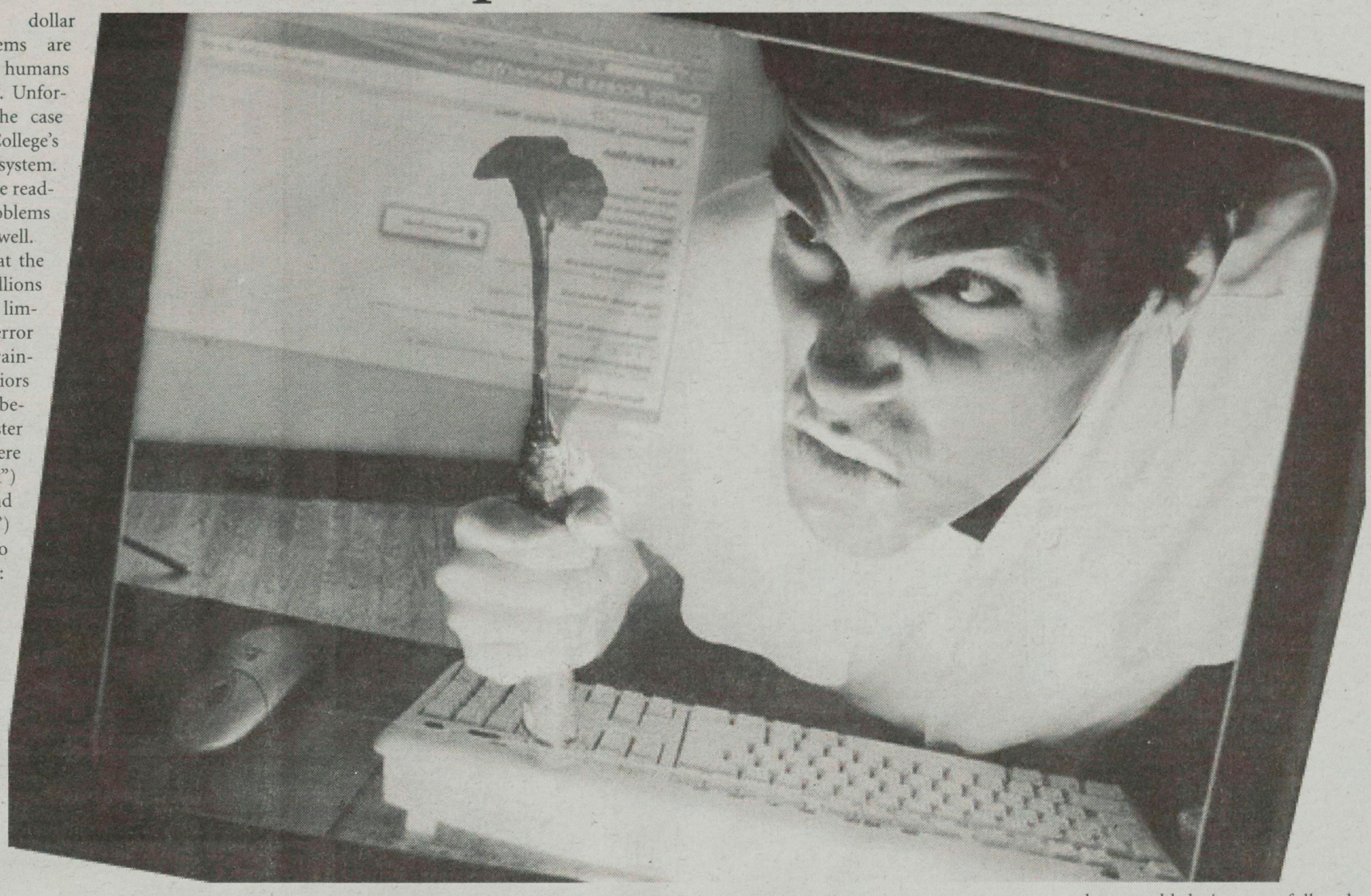
BannerWeb Blues: 'Hopes Dashed, Smashed, Crashed'



Multi-million dollar technological systems are only as useful as the humans who back them up. Unfortunately, such is the case with Middlebury College's new BannerWeb system. Chances are, if you're reading this, you had problems with registration as well.

It's a shame that the College spent millions on a system that is limited by human error and inadequate training. Last Friday juniors and seniors woke before 7 a.m. to register for J-Term and were denied access ("click") again… ("click") and again…. ("click") and again, leading to mild frustration #1: "how annoying."

Monday, we woke again before 7 a.m., and many of us still could not register, leading to a more serious frustration #2 ranging from "I want to throw or kick something!" to expletives.

So, why couldn't I register? Was this a technological problem? No. This was human error and lack of human training. So who is to blame? BannerWeb itself.

Let me clarify something. I do not mind getting up at 7 a.m. to register. What I do mind, however, is doing everything I can to prepare for registration (my three "Registration Status" boxes were checked, were yours?), reading all the BannerWeb instructions and then being denied.

On Friday, all juniors and seniors had, more or less, the same problem, called "system error," so I will tell my story of what happened during round two (ding-ding! fight!) on Monday.

Warning: parts of this narrative may sound familiar.

After waking at 6:50 a.m., logging into BannerWeb (success! high hopes, though cautiously suppressed after Friday's crash), clicking incessantly and getting rejected, I called Information Technology Services (ITS) at 7:05 a.m. and 7:07 a.m. No answer, so I left a message. (To ITS's credit, they later called me twice to try and help out.)

Next I went to ITS. The folks there were very quick and helpful in analyzing the problem. My "Major Restriction" message meant something was screwy with my file and I needed to go to Forest Hall. So, off I went.

It turned out I *was* eligible for registration and I had the necessary prerequisites, but the less-than-friendly Forest ladies (receptionist excluded) couldn't fix my problem either, so they sent me to see "the coordinator" of an unnamed department, we'll call it X.

Apparently, according to the Forest ladies, Department X had had troubles setting up its BannerWeb page. (Aha! So folks knew there might have been a problem before there actually was one!) I was not amused.

"On the other hand," I thought, "if Department X is the problem, Department X is also the solution, and I will help the coordinator find it." (Hopes resurrected.) So, off I went again.

The coordinator's door was open, but she wasn't there. After waiting a few minutes, I glanced at her whiteboard, which read, "9 – noon, in Battell Lab basement, Banner admissions training." (Hopes dashed, smashed, crashed.) Shouldn't she have been completely BannerWeb-trained *prior* to our registration, not afterward? This was not promising, so I went home.

Through the course of the day I called and wrote e-mails to the coordinator, the professor of the course and others. At 11:49 a.m. I got a useless e-mail from the Coordinator: "E-mail the Prof. of this course … to explain the situation and ask for an override."

I had already done that, so I phoned the coordinator to explain — as everyone told me — that it was *she* who had the authority to override the system. To which the coordinator replied, "Well, I guess I can look into that."

"Well, you better exert some effort. I certainly have!" I thought. "I'm no expert on BannerWeb," the coordinator added. "Oh, really?" I thought.

So who's at fault? Surprisingly, not the coordinator, at least not completely. She's just the guinea pig. True, it took yet another visit to her office for me to successfully register at 2:10 p.m. (I hovered over the coordinator as she hovered over a scribbled-upon BannerWeb instruction booklet, contemplating its technological intricacies.) Unsympathetic as I was to comments like "Banner is not my favorite subject" and "I generally need lots of caffeine to deal with Banner," the coordinator finally realized she could register me after all! Yay, it only took superhuman effort. I needed a nap.

Despite uninformed questions like "Is the deadline today?", I realized the coordinator was not totally at fault. BannerWeb is not only incredibly expensive, it's incredibly complex, and Middlebury has provided inadequate and/or incomplete BannerWeb training to its staff.

And here is BannerWeb's inherent flaw: in order for BannerWeb to work flawlessly, everyone has to become an "expert" in its operation. It's kind of like asking for world peace.

Then again, this declaration prompts the question, why were certain departments problem-free? One might also ask, if students could do it successfully, why not staff? These questions prompt further research that must be determined by the College administration.

I don't like complaining without offering constructive advice on how to solve a problem.

Therefore: Dear Middlebury College, please: a) train staff on how to use BannerWeb *before* you launch it, b) limit human error, student frustrations and wasted time by checking to see that staff can understand and prepare the system for successful operation and c) if all else fails, please sell the multi-million dollar BannerWeb back to its manufacturer and refund my tuition for the wasted days I spent trying to figure out what went wrong… or use the money to build more buildings. Yes! Perhaps that's the solution to all our problems – *more* buildings.

Note on the Author: Paul W. Gruber spends all his free time trying to register for classes.

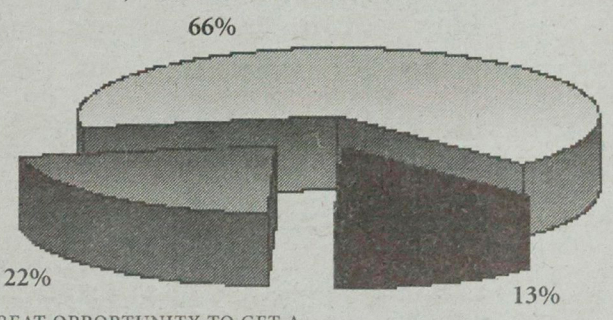
PAUL W. GRUBER '04
AN INTERNATIONAL STUDIES MAJOR FROM WARWICK, N.Y.

The Middlebury Campus Online Poll:

Is J-Term Academically Worthwhile?

Next Week's Question:
What was your experience with BannerWeb?
VOTE ONLINE AT WWW.MIDDLEBURYCAMPUS.COM

With intro languages and Organic Chem, J-Term classes can be tough



It's a great opportunity to get a well-rounded academic experience

By "well-rounded," I mean a balance of partying and skiing!

Note: Results based on 93 votes cast between Nov. 6 and Nov. 11 at www.middleburycampus.com

Student Ambulance Volunteers On Call for Emergencies

First Responders Juggle School Work with Commitment to Local Community

By Kelsey Rinehart
Staff Writer

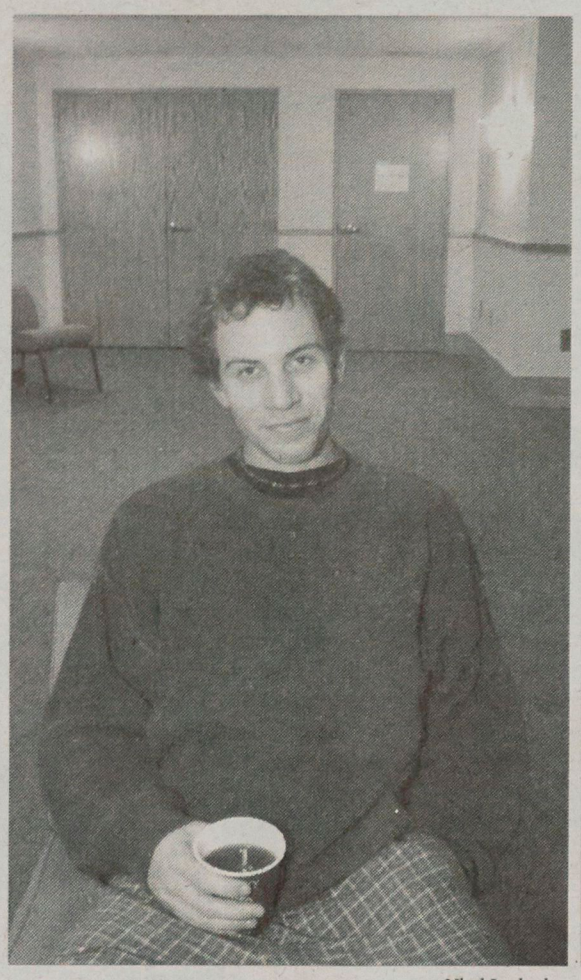
When the Middlebury Volunteer Ambulance Association (MVAA) receives a call, those volunteers who are on call leap into action, wherever or whenever it may be. On any given day, chances are that at least one Middlebury College student will respond to the call as part of the MVAA team. Ten students currently volunteer with the MVAA and commit a certain number of hours each month to being on call.

The MVAA has offered prehospital emergency care to the communities of Middlebury, East Middlebury, Bridgeport, Shoreham, Orwell, Ripton, Salisbury, Cornwall, Weybridge, Whiting and New Haven for over 30 years. It responds to over 1,200 calls a year. Volunteers are required to dedicate at least 20 hours of on-call time each month and attend monthly meetings and training sessions. MVAA volunteers are community members of all ages and backgrounds.

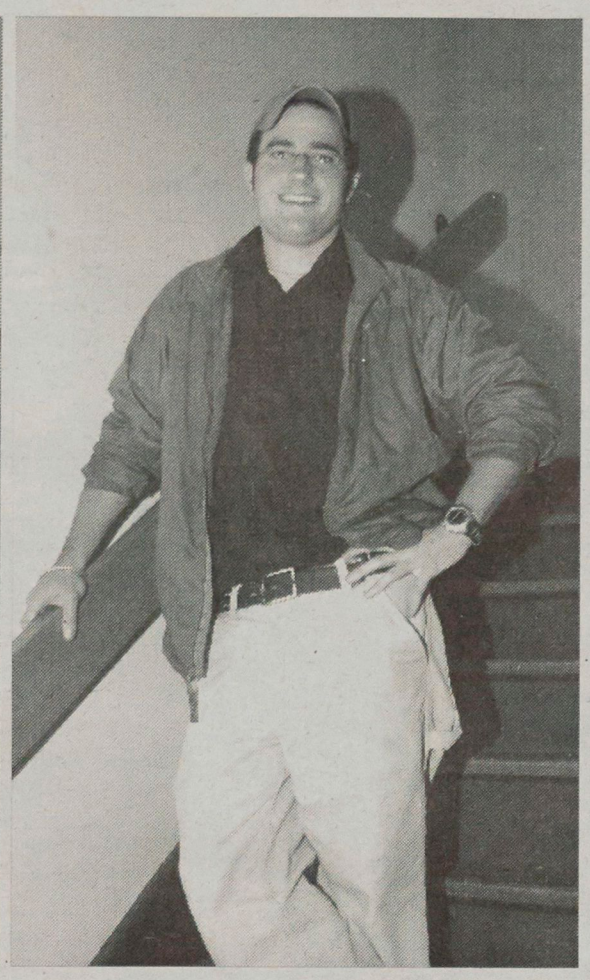
Britton Keeshan '04.5 joined fellow Middlebury area residents as an MVAA volunteer during his second semester at Middlebury. This, Keeshan said, "was one of the best decisions of my college career." He explained, "Not only is the ambulance a great way to get experience in the medical field, but it is also an incredible means of getting involved with the community. It's a sad cliché, but many students here, I believe, rarely have the chance to experience life in Vermont beyond Middlebury College's borders."

Keeshan also noted that volunteering with the MVAA allows students the opportunity to show the area residents who they really are. This real-life interaction helps to counteract a negative view of the College, Keeshan says, by "helping to turn the misconception [about Middlebury students] around."

Keeshan does, however, acknowledge the price of volunteering. "Obviously, the whole endeavor is taxing on schoolwork and friendships. It's not easy to be too tired to go out on a Friday or Saturday night because you were up the night before taking care of a patient or transporting them to Burlington," he said. "But overall," he affirmed, "people, including professors, are more than understanding, and the pros far outweigh the cons."



Vlad Lodoaba



Schuyler Van Horn

Andrew Hale '06 and Britton Keeshan '04.5 spend time each week on call for the town's Volunteer Ambulance Association.

Andrew Hale '06 would second that statement. Hale joined MVAA this September. "The MVAA crew definitely gets away from the college community bubble — there are lots of 'real' Vermonters there, all of whom are good people," he commented.

Hale is on call on Friday nights and weekdays, "when I can sneak it in." Since starting with the MVAA, Hale has spent the hours between Friday at 7 p.m. and Saturday at 8 a.m. every week doing homework, hanging out and waiting for calls. "I've gotten three calls in a night and I've gotten none, so a good night sleep is always a question mark," he said. "When the radios go off, everyone means business, no matter what time of the night it is."

> Working for MVAA has added an element of responsibility to my life that is really steadying.
> — Andrew Hale '06

Hale and other volunteers are certified in one of four levels, from the First Responder Course (a course in basic pre-hospital care) to Emergency Medical Technician (EMT)-Basic to EMT-Intermediate to EMT-Paramedic (the highest level of pre-hospital certification available). Most MVAA volunteers are at the EMT-B or EMT-I levels, and a few are completing Paramedic training.

All members of an ambulance crew perform distinct roles in an emergency situation. The driver is responsible for driving the vehicle and making sure it is ready for the next call after it returns to the station.

Attendants, who must have EMT-B certification, conduct patient assessment and give medical care. The Crew Chief, who is in charge of the call, is responsible for the safety of the crew. The Chief must be certified at the EMT-I level or above. The crew must consist of a minimum of two people, including an EMT-I and an EMT.

The MVAA owns three fully equipped ambulances and a heavy rescue truck, which is used for vehicle extrication and other special rescue procedures.

Some MVAA members also choose to become part of the heavy rescue team.

These volunteers receive training in "vehicle extrication, farm rescue, water and ice rescue and low-angle rope rescue," according to the MVAA Web site. Heavy rescuers are familiar with tools such as the "jaws-of-life" and other hydraulic instruments.

In the past, MVAA members have been recognized by the community and the state of Vermont for their commitment. In April, at the 15th Annual Emergency Medical Services Conference in Burlington, Ronnie Sunderland from the MVAA was recognized as "2003 EMT-Intermediate of the Year."

Sunderland has been heavily involved with training new EMTs, has been an active member of the MVAA for over 10 years and acted as driver or crew chief in response to 263 emergency calls in 2002.

"I would say that working for MVAA has added an element of responsibility to my life that is really steadying," Hale said. "It just feels really great to go back to bed after coming back from a needy call in the middle of the night."

Keeshan remarked of his experience with MVAA, "I have been able to meet so many different members of the community. I think the most memorable part of this whole process has been just that. It's a truly great feeling to be on a first name basis with not only police, fire crews and hospital employees, but also people in town who [might] walk up and thank you in the humblest of ways for helping their son or daughter, mother or father, brother or sister or even close friend."

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Total Eclipse

Vlad Lodoaba and Schuyler Van Horn

Looking up to the sky Saturday night, *Vermont residents were treated to a full lunar eclipse, not to mention a crystal clear fall night perfect for star (and moon) gazing.*

Local Economy Bouncing Back

Since Ames' closing, profits lost to retail competition outside Middlebury and Addison County are estimated between $75 and $86 million.

By Alyssa Thurston
LOCAL NEWS EDITOR

If you were a small town, what would you do if your biggest business closed its doors?

That's the question the town of Middlebury has had to answer following last year's closure of the Ames general merchandise store — a significant business presence in the area.

To determine the impact of the closure on the local economy and come up with methods of encouraging overall economic revitalization, the town conducted a survey about downtown Middlebury's economy. The "Downtown Market Study and Strategic Marketing Plan," the first of its type and scale in at least 10 years, was conducted by the New Hampshire economic, planning and real estate consultant firm RKG Associates, Inc.

As stated in a June report presentation, the study analyzed the types of businesses that exist in downtown Middlebury and their overall contributions to the area's economy, as well as potential for growth in the downtown business area.

It also surveyed a randomly selected group of consumers who patronize these businesses, from Addison Country residents to Middlebury College students and out-of-town visitors. The survey then analyzed their individual purchasing habits, preferences and desires as related to downtown business activity.

The study used the results from these surveys to look at potential solutions for increasing retail activity in Middlebury, with an eye towards coming up with solutions to nourish and promote downtown business.

The closure of Ames has had a significant impact on downtown economic activity and was thus the main focus of the study. Survey respondents had shopped at Ames on average at least three times a month, with 20 percent of those respondents also frequently visiting the downtown area on the same trips. Of the respondents who expressed an opinion about whether or not the closing of Ames would reduce their trips to downtown, 30 percent said that it would.

From these numbers and other statistical data related to consumer activity in downtown Middlebury, the study concluded that the closure of Ames would significantly "reduce resident purchases of clothing, housewares and other department store-type items in Middlebury," as well as decrease overall business in the downtown area.

According to the study, a number of factors have contributed to a relatively slow-paced downtown economy. One has been significant competition with businesses outside Middlebury and even outside Addison County. For instance, 33 percent of survey respondents indicated that they would prefer to travel to nearby Chittenden County to shop for such goods as books, housewares, groceries and clothing, rather than purchase these types of items in Middlebury. Since Ames' closing, profits lost to such outside competition are estimated between $75 and $86 million.

Furthermore, a perceived general problem with traffic congestion and lack of available parking downtown has driven more residents outside Middlebury to shop.

When asked what types of stores and services were most preferred for the downtown area, residents indicated that they would desire more major clothing, department store and discount store options. They also showed significant support for the presence of another supermarket or grocery store in the area.

College students, for their part, also strongly supported more options for purchasing clothing in the area, as well as more venues for purchasing entertainment-oriented items such as books and music.

Based on the results of the survey, the study made several recommendations to help draw profits back to the downtown Middlebury area.

One suggestion was to consider more development in areas such as the currently unused lots behind Ilsley Public Library and the Municipal Building. Traffic improvements downtown were also recommended.

First and foremost, however, the survey emphasized that the currently near-vacant Ames Plaza must be developed and expanded. Furthermore, a major department store-type business must be recruited to fill the void created by Ames' closure. These were cited as the two most important methods to most effectively maintain a competitive edge for downtown businesses, since they would provide more options in the area for local consumers and increase downtown retail sales in Middlebury.

The study concluded that there is enough economic necessity and local demand for such vast development endeavors. This type of major development would provide for more shopping options in Middlebury that, in turn, would bolster the downtown economy by helping to prevent retail sales "leakage" outside Middlebury.

Since the report's issuance, the town has been actively taking steps in response to the survey's suggestions for development and improvement. According to Jamie Stewart, executive director of the Addison County Economic Development Corporation, plans to renovate the Ames Plaza are already underway, with "a significant facelift and restructuring of the Ames plaza property" slated to take place sometime next year.

As for attracting a new anchor business to Middlebury, a Hannaford grocery store is already lined up to fill the space vacated by Ames. Existing plans also include developing spaces for several other stores to accompany the Hannaford store in the soon-to-be renovated plaza.

Stewart further noted that the town has taken significant steps "to make downtown more appealing." Projects have included major streetscaping and focusing on more prominent marketing and promotional activity, in order to draw more consumers downtown.

When life hands you lemons, as the saying goes, you make lemonade. In the case of Middlebury, when one economic center closes down, you build a bigger and better one. Though the closing of Ames might have had hints of a doomsday herald to some, the town of Middlebury is making concerted efforts in response to the economic study of the downtown area to reinvigorate the local economy. If all goes well, the planned changes, as well as those already underway, promise to add even more vitality to this small Vermont town.

Schuyler Van Horn

Renovations for a Hannaford supermarket have already begun at the former Ames shopping complex.

BEYOND THE BUBBLE

Compiled by Andrea LaRocca and Alyssa Thurston

EDITOR'S PICK: NO SIGNIFICANT OTHER TO CUDDLE WITH? HERE'S THE NEXT BEST THING — VERMONT TEDDY BEARS! CHECK OUT THE VT TEDDY BEAR COMPANY'S CELEBRATION OF NATIONAL TEDDY BEAR DAY. HEY, YOU NEVER KNOW WHO ELSE IS LOOKING FOR SOMETHING FUZZY TO TAKE TO BED.

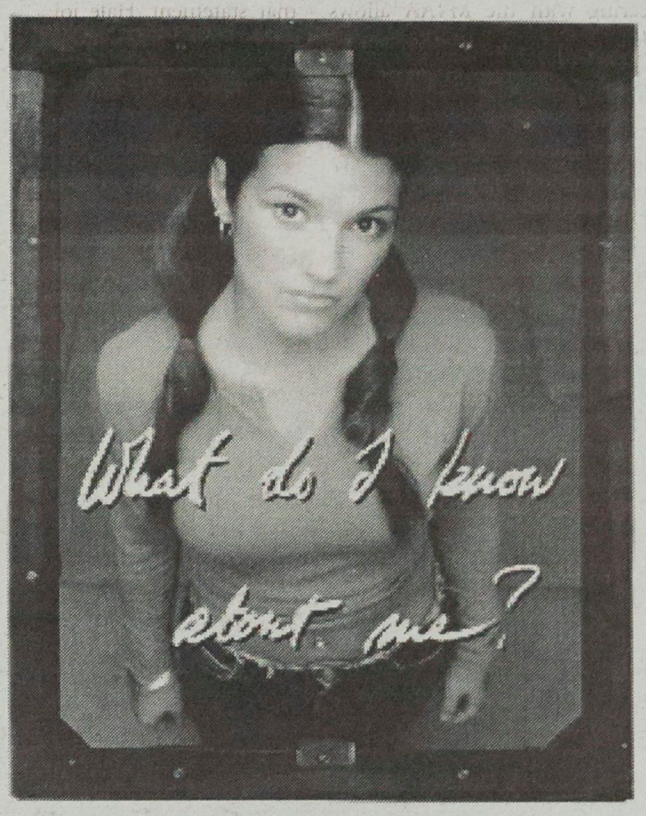
NATIONAL TEDDY BEAR DAY: The VT Teddy Bear Company is holding a birthday party, and you're invited! On Nov. 15, from 11a.m. to 3 p.m., the famous VT Teddy Bear Company will celebrate National Teddy Bear Day with kids' activities, free tours, birthday cake and a 25 percent discount. Call 802-985-3001 for details and directions.

BASKETMAKING CLASS: If you forgot to get up at 7 a.m. and didn't get into that underwater basketweaving J-term class you wanted, here's your chance to make up for it. On Saturday, Nov. 15, Nancy Willis will conduct a class on how to make baskets. The class is at 9 a.m. in Lincoln and there is a $20 fee for the materials. Just remember to register early this time — the class is limited to 5 people!

EMPTY BOWL DINNER: Sick of dining hall food? Then go out to dinner — the Middlebury way. On Saturday, Nov. 15, at 6 p.m., the Middlebury Natural Foods Co-op is holding a dinner that will benefit local food shelves. $25 includes a nutritious dinner and a souvenir handmade bowl. Check out the Co-op for tickets and more details.

INDOOR LIVESTOCK AREA GRAND OPENING: Feel the need for a true Vermont experience? Well then, put the Ben & Jerry's away and head to Wilmington for the Nov. 15 grand opening of the Indoor Livestock Area. You can feed the animals, hunt for eggs, milk a goat and lots more. Hours are from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Call 802-464-3762 for more information.

HELEN THOMAS LECTURE: Hear "the woman in the red dress" talk about what it's like to be the Dean of the White House Press Corps. On Nov. 16 at 2 p.m., Helen Thomas will speak at the Sheraton Hotel in South Burlington. Admission is $20. Call 802-861-6200 for details.



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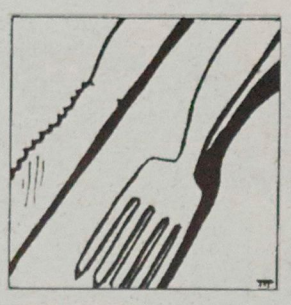


THE LOCAL FLAVOR

by Michael Ives

Schuyler Van Horn

- Restaurant: Bristol Bakery and Café
- Location: 14 Main Street, Bristol
- Hours: Mon. - Sat., 6 a.m. - 6 p.m.
  Sun., 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.
- Features: Eat in or take out
- Specialties: Bagels, bakery items, sandwiches

The Bristol Bakery and Café does not have a large, exotic menu. Rather, one can find a collection of thoughtfully prepared, inexpensive bakery staples, with a few seasonal surprises. And the servers are sexy.

Bristol Bakery offers as serious and burly a pastry as I've ever seen. If we had been feeling particularly devilish, we could have lunched on sweets alone.

Taking over a large part of Bristol's main street, the café boasts several huge windowpanes that facilitate people-watching. Inside, a sprawling ceiling and brick walls create a cavernous, country atmosphere. Sunday afternoon readers and children inhabit window perches, nodding and smiling at patrons passing through the door.

Bristol Bakery's menu caters to any shade of hunger. For substantial fare, the veggie sandwich is a great deal at $3.75. Other standard meat sandwiches are available for under $4.50. Sandwich making is at the customer's discretion, and we were able to customize our veggie sandwiches accordingly. All sandwich bread is baked on premises, and the brown rice and walnut variety was especially good. Other condiment options include havarti cheese, avocado, hummus and vinaigrette dressings.

Another interesting and less-filling option was mini bagels. We chose a plain bagel with a bruschetta topping, which turned out to be more of a tomato pesto. Other topping options such as scallion cream cheese or hummus were available, all for under $2.

While the sandwich and bagel were great choices, they were clearly not the priority of our visit. Resting below the attentive gaze of our lovely servers were dozens of fresh pastries. Small items such as peanut butter "whoopie" cookies, molasses cookies and almond raspberry shortbread cost under $1.50 each, while larger, more ambitious ginger pumpkin and chocolate mousse cakes cost under $3. Bristol Bakery offers as serious and burly a pastry as I've ever seen. If we had been feeling particularly devilish, we could have lunched on sweets alone.

At the end of the pastry display, I found a self-serve coffee rack. In addition to simple coffee flavors, an impressive array of chai and cappuccino was available from behind the bar for $2 to $3 a cup.

We sat down in old chairs in the corner and melted into the woodwork for an hour, watching Sunday Bristolites stroll down Main Street. Visitors flowed in a steady stream through the door, pausing to admire paintings by local artists and then ambling out into the street with hot drinks in hand. We could have spent hours there and even brought something to read. And then we still would not have been ready to leave.

As for the girls behind the counter, they did not, as I had expected, declare their love for me as I ordered my fare or even as I left in a cloud of cheerful Sunday bustle. I wasn't disappointed, though, thinking of how many Sundays there are in a cold winter. Perhaps, I realized, if the way to my heart is through tasty food, the way to theirs might be through the elegantly decorated tip jar. Duly noted.

Survey Says: Burlington is the Place To Be for College Students

By Greg Duggan
Staff Writer

Because of its limited nightlife and small-town atmosphere, Middlebury may not be the ideal college town for many students. Thirty-five miles north, however, Burlington offers a lively music scene, numerous bars, clubs and restaurants. As the home of several colleges and universities, Burlington fits the stereotype of a young, bustling college town.

In a recent survey conducted by Collegia, Inc., ranking college towns throughout the United States, Burlington ranked seventh out of 15 metropolitan areas with less than one million people and at least one nationally recognized university. Vermont's biggest city ranked behind communities such as Boulder, Colo., and Madison, Wis., but beat out areas like Syracuse, N.Y.

Collegia gathered data in three different categories — a student index, a city index and a lifestyle index — to rank the college towns. Within the student index, Collegia looked at such information as the educational attainment of the city's population (the number of citizens with at least a bachelor's degree) and the number of students per capita, among other data. The city index was based on data such as unemployment and safety. The lifestyle index included data on the number of restaurants, bars and performing arts centers per capita. Although Collegia did not consider input from students, faculty or administrators — the company's Research Director George Smith explained that their strategy was "to keep everything as objective as possible" — future polls may include student surveys.

Collegia is a consulting firm that works with colleges, tourism agencies and economic development groups. As Smith says, the goal of Collegia is to "bring all those various people to the same table, because they really have all the same goals in mind. They want their region to be perceived well, in the eyes of students, and also in the eyes of young professionals, in the eyes of a company that's thinking about moving to the area. There's so much research coming out talking about what an important factor having a young vibrant community is to a region." By releasing the survey, Collegia hopes to show the role that colleges play in a city's quality of life.

Courtesy

Church Street in Burlington is a common weekend destination for Middlebury students.

While Collegia's survey may numerically prove Burlington's qualities, students and residents have long recognized the city's appeal. Colin Stephenson, a senior at the University of Vermont, remembered the vibes he first received from Burlington. "I came up to visit UVM and just getting out of the car in Burlington, before I'd even seen it, I said, 'I'm going to school here.'" Stephenson's roommate, St. Michael's senior Matt Sylvester, pointed out the attractions of Burlington, saying, "It's got a great music scene, it's got a lot of cool places to go eat, it's got Church Street." Stephenson also acknowledged the attraction of the music scene, saying, "There's a lot of good music that comes through for not too much money in small venues, intimate settings. I'd say that's the best part of Burlington for me."

Emily Furlong, a senior at Middlebury College, grew up in Burlington and remembers seeing college students all over the city. Like Stephenson and Sylvester, she finds it to be a great town for young adults.

"The students are right downtown, so they can walk to the bars and to Church Street. They have access to the lake [Champlain], and the mountains are really close by, so there's skiing, hiking — outdoorsy stuff," she says.

That's more than enough reason for Middlebury students to escape for a day to Burlington when Middlebury becomes too intimate.

College Land to Receive a Face Lift

By Matthew Rudolph
Staff Writer

This Saturday the Otter Creek Audubon Society and Middlebury Area Land Trust held a meeting to discuss the development of a new public park in the town of Middlebury. Located on the corner of Pulp Mill Bridge Road and Weybridge Street, the park will be situated on land currently owned by Middlebury College.

The College is planning on selling the land to the Middlebury Land Trust with stipulations on how the land will be developed. The lot sits on 17 acres, six of which are cattail marsh along Otter Creek. Sixteen of the 17 acres will be conserved as a park with several trails and boardwalks along with a small parking lot.

Project Director Gioia Kuss said the park will "provide an open space to recreate and conserve for the use of the town of Middlebury." She added that an overlook will be created with a view of Otter Creek.

The primary attraction of this project would be the official creation of the neighborhood park. According to fellow Project Director Warren King, the lot has already been unofficially used as a park for the past 30 years. "The sale [of the lot] to the Land Trust will ensure that this use continues in perpetuity."

The sale also requires that three housing lots be developed on the land.

Kuss said that the development of the lots "will combat urban sprawl," a problem currently facing the tight-knit community of Middlebury.

Schuyler Van Horn

The College plans to sell land on the corner of Pulp Mill Bridge Road and Weybridge Street to the Middlebury Land Trust. The plot will be turned into a park.

Middlebury College and the town of Middlebury have had a good relationship in the past. This project helps the College provide the town with another open space for town residents. Furthermore, the building of the three housing lots will provide additional tax income, thereby generating additional fiscal support for the town.

In terms of aesthetics, the project's aim is to seamlessly combine the housing lots with the park by maintaining the natural landscape. Project Director Warren King said that the housing will be "visually screened." In other words, the housing lots will be built away from the park, so as not to be visible from the park.

Middlebury College student and local resident Joseph Powers '06.5, noted that even though there is a limitless number of outdoor activities to be enjoyed around Middlebury, the town itself lacks "the open spaces and parks that are found throughout the state."

He added the Middlebury Area Land Trust's project is "great for providing another space for Middlebury residents to experience the outdoors in town."

For years, the area located behind Alexander Twilight Hall was one of the only other areas located around town being used as a park. This new project ensures an alternative option for a park not located on the Middlebury campus.

Although the land has not yet been purchased from the College, town residents are already eager for the project to be completed so they can enjoy a park overlooking Otter Creek.

Thrift Store Makeover: Katie Curler

Each week *The Middlebury Campus* will take one member of the Middlebury College community to a local thrift store to revolutionize the way he or she looks at life, liberty and personal style.

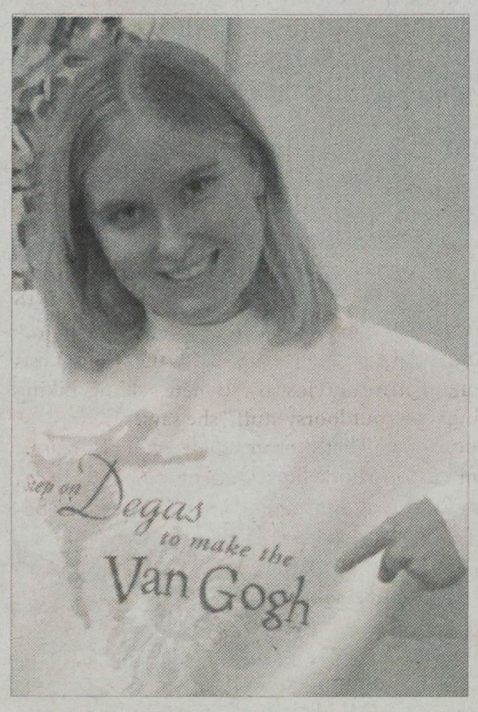
Katie Curler '04 brought down the fashion smack this week at Round Robin, thrilled to finally get her chance to scour through Middlebury's seemingly endless selection of polyester goodness. Despite a little preliminary shock at the sheer amount of kitsch (check out the sweatshirt below left), Katie hit her stride.

Former high school show choir member and current Musical Players' choreographer, Katie has proven her penchant for sequins and costumes. Nonetheless, she was willing to investigate more practical, everyday outfits like the track suit and cocktail couture she samples below. After an afternoon of grinning and baring it (quite literally), Katie took her look from glam rock to glamazon.

Over the river and through the woods...
Poncho: $25; Basket: $4; Topiary Deer: $8

Hot Find of the Week:

Aesthetic beauty and verbal wit join forces—in a sweatshirt ($6)!



Hip Tips

The biggest crime any shopper can commit is forgetting to mix it up. Likewise, the greatest virtue of a thrift frequenter is embracing the eclectic. Though two separates may seem incompatible or contradictory, if you just use a little ingenuity and fortitude, you could come up with one bangin' outfit. For example, Katie combined a Fall shirt with a Wintry Tweed shirt and came up with one sizzling after look.

When looking for a little mood music, forget about music superstores like BMG, Tower and VirginMega. Thrift stores (the ones in downtown Middlebury, at least) have an 'interesting' selection of CDs and tapes, to say the least. You definitely won't find Britney's new album or the latest *Now* compilation, but the odds of finding a lounge version of "She Works Hard for the Money" are surprisingly high.

Thrifty T's are indeed fabulous, but don't forget about the wealth of home decor accessories that are buried in backrooms, nooks and crannies. Check out the fantastic topiary deer and the fruitalicious wine glass that Katie discovered when looking for the all-important accent for her outfits.

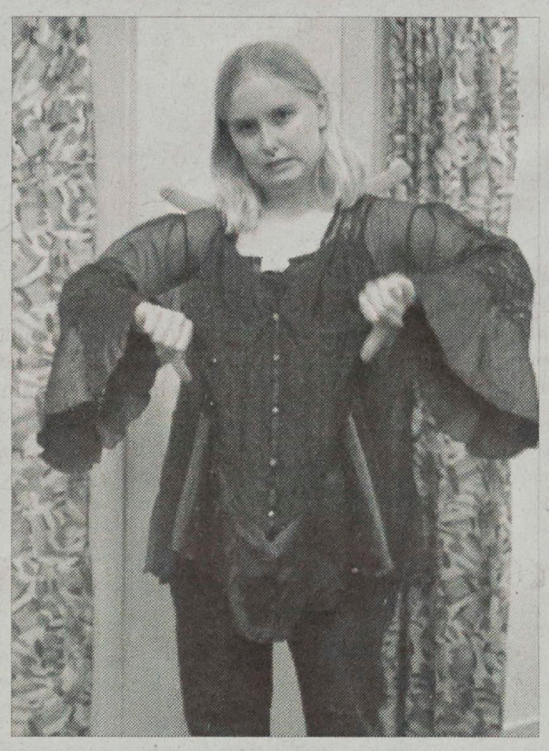
Photographs by Albert Bitici

Now it's your turn!

Depressed by your dorm room?

Need a new look?

If you or anyone you know would like to be the next Thrift Store Makeover, contact Lanford at lbeard@middlebury.edu.



It may be cold outside...
Purple Negligee: Intimo Amore, $7

But it's hot-hot-hot in here!
Robe: Montgomery Ward, $6
Muckluck slippers, $5

Gym Bunny
Vest: Old Navy, $8
Long underwear shirt: EMS, $6
Track Pants: American Eagle, $6

After — *Petite sophisticate*
3/4-sleeve shirt: Bloomingdale's, $7
Skirt: 6; Stemware: 4 for $8

Pop Rocks

by Lanford Beard

Just in case some of you less pop-oriented folks out there didn't know, there's an official category for cheesy schlock music. It's called Adult Contemporary.

In this category belongs my dear friend Clay Aiken.

The second big loser on Fox's "American Idol" has joined the ranks of pop stars who have recently snatched themselves up a piece of urban allure with videos in the streets of New York.

U2 led the charge in the 80s with its video for "Where The Streets Have No Name." If you were, like me, a loyal viewer of "Pop Up Video," you'll realize that the police intervention in the end was real.

Flash forward to the new millennium when Avril Lavigne rabble-rouses for the fans with her popalicious single "Sk8er Boi." This time, however, that little Canadian rapscallion Avril has staged her riot and embellished her own fandom to force out the SWAT team to shut that show down.

Very recently a handful of male pop sell-outs are trying to rough up their images with the flava of the streets.

Most successful, I would argue, is Justin Timberlake with his "I'm Loving It" video, which is a pretty apparent rip-off of Michael Jackson's "The Way You Make Me Feel" and the new McDonald's jingle.

JT's "Like I Love You" set outside of a quickie mart, and his Mexicali saloon setting for "Señorita" also embraced a certain macho, trashy playa aesthetic, so we'll take it on the chin that this is the image he's building for himself and — love it or hate it — we might as well get used to it.

Sadly, Mr. Aiken's addition to the white-boys-on-the-streets canon is less plausible. The assumption that people will accept Clay as putting on some rag-tag show to communicate that he too is one of the people is utterly ridiculous.

I love the guy (I admit), but he is known for his studio-produced, over-orchestrated pop schmaltz. That is the appeal of "American Idol."

When Kelly came out with the videos for her singles, they were cheesy, softly lit and smattered with fountains and formal wear. This was appropriate.

When Ruben (the big winner of "AI" and my hometown neighbor) returned to Birmingham to film "Flying Without Wings," he embraced his roots and his man-of-the-people status. That was appropriate.

And I understand that this video capitalizes on the live performance element of "AI," but Clay trying to ape Bon Jovi's "It's My Life," Avril or even Bono will not fly for those of us who have any idea of the image he worked so hard to build on the show.

I'm a firm believer that pop videos are relevant cultural texts, so let's be all academic about it and examine the video, shall we?

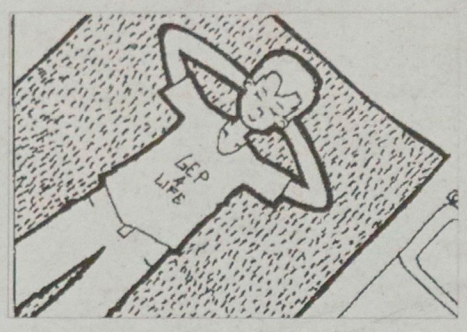
Clay kicks off this rock show with a melodic "Ooooooooooh." Jeepers he's masculine!

The power of the song begins to draw innocent bystanders. The

See Pop Music, page 15

T.I.M.
(This Is Me)

by Tom McCann & Ryan Reese



Pressure. We hate pressure. This, being a humor column, requires that its authors bring the humor and place it here, in the column, for you to enjoy. This is hard.

Sometimes, we're sure you don't enjoy our humor, but since it's our column, we get to decide what goes in and what doesn't.

There is an expectation that this little "intro" is going to be funny, witty, clever and extremely introductory. The expectation weighs on us like the weight of the Earth on the shoulders of Atlas. It's heavy, really heavy.

Truth is, we didn't have an intro this week, so we wrote this instead.

This sentence should be a transition sentence into the next paragraph, so just imagine that it is and read on…

Tim, like all college students, has a random assortment of photos in his room. However, only three of them are visible.

One might expect to see pictures of his family, some snapshots from a trip with friends to New York, Boston, New Hampshire or Maine. You might even half-expect to see a photo of old friends from high school. Not so in Tim's room.

Why? Because they're all of him.

It's not that he loves himself. It's just that after only being in his room for 10 weeks, he's not had the time to put any more up. In fact, he hasn't put much of anything in his room.

When planning a party in his room this weekend, the lack of "stuff" threw the entire success of the event under a cloud of doubt. Tim needed more "stuff," and he needed it right away.

In search of "stuff," Tim took off to a remote location and perused the "stuff" in his friend's room.

In the end, Tim's room ended up with five soccer jerseys, two posters, a couch and a map of the world to supplement his Serengeti poster and crazy African mask complete with swim goggles.

His room was ready for the party of all parties, yet not two hours before it could have rivaled an insane asylum with its white walls and uncarpeted floor.

Now make no mistake, he does have a carpet. It's blue. It's soft. It's beautiful, and Tim loves it almost as much as he loves his atomic clock. It's not just a carpet, it's an experience.

When looking for a floor cover-upper, Tim considered a wide range of options. The first of these options was a small, thin, red carpet, which he termed 'the Ford Taurus.'

He then looked at 'the tricycle' — a square, off-white sheet with the texture of sandpaper that Tim dismissed with a look of disgust and contempt.

His favorite option was to line the floor with Astroturf, but he ended up mortgaging the house, selling the kids and splashing the cash to buy the carpet of all carpets — a thick, blue beauty that he affectionately nicknamed "the Jaguar."

My lord, he loves that Jaguar, and when the party was held, the Jaguar was nowhere to be seen. It was safe, away and free from the risk of spillage that the party presented — just how Tim wanted it.

If you want help decorating your room, hosting a party or especially choosing the carpet of your dreams, Tim's your man. You can contact him at timthisisme@hotmail.com He's waiting for you.

Student Drivers: A New Treat for MiddRiders

By Emily Thaler
Staff Writer

When I buckled up and took a ride with Tucker Briggs '06 and Dave Peritz '06 last Tuesday, I found out that they spend their nights servicing the Middlebury College community in more ways than one.

Briggs drives the MiddRides van — also known as the "Drunk Bus" — while Peritz navigates. The two believe that they are "an essential part of campus [because] everything goes more smoothly when MiddRides are running."

Not only do Briggs and Peritz help students reach their destinations quickly and safely, but they also help to liven up otherwise monotonous Tuesday nights. Engaging in playful banter, the sophomore student drivers are friendly and upbeat, and their attitudes are contagious. Once on the bus, you can't help but forget about your work for the evening.

In addition to their pleasant natures, the drivers also bring to the bus a sense of adventure. They often incorporate wild themes into their MiddRide shifts.

For example, on Peritz's birthday a few weeks ago, they had a "cookie and bike night," with cookies sent from mom and yellow bikes picked up *en route*. The guys offered departing riders a cookie and a yellow bike to "give them warm tummies and send them on their way."

Briggs and Peritz also spice up the Tuesday-night shift by varying their music selection. Last week they featured soothing classical music.

Tuesday was an exceptionally busy night for Briggs and Peritz due to a significant drop in temperature and perhaps also due to daylight savings time. Now that it is colder and getting dark earlier, more students are turning to MiddRides to get around campus.

On a typical three-hour Tuesday shift, Briggs and Peritz average about 15 passengers, but last week, that number jumped to almost 50.

During their three-hour shift last week, they also covered over 40 miles, following a pre-planned route unless called on to make other pick-ups or drop-offs. Weekday "hot spots" along the route include Ridgeline, A-Frames, the Mods and the gym.

Briggs, who has a van license, drives while Peritz sits behind him with the radio and a clipboard. Peritz receives calls from the dispatcher and directs Briggs.

Even the dispatcher is able to join in the Tuesday night MiddRide fun. He remarked once to Peritz, "You guys must really love your job."

Briggs and Peritz got the idea to become student drivers last year after taking a few MiddRides themselves. Three-hour shifts are open Sunday through Thursday night for students with 15-passenger van licenses.

Vlad Lodoaba

John Nichols '05 and Alexandra Borders '04 pilot the MiddRides bus on Tuesday night. They are among a handful of students to hold this entertaining job.

Briggs received his van license this fall after taking a three hour course and passing a van road test. His license has come in handy outside of the MiddRides job, as he was able to drive the sailing team in a college van to a regatta earlier this fall.

Peritz was unable to get his license because he did not meet the requirement of having a regular license for three years. Instead, he navigates. Typically with student drivers, there are two people per shift — one drives and the other mans the walkie-talkie.

According to Briggs and Peritz, driving for MiddRides definitely has its perks. The salary is pretty good and is comparable to that of other on-campus jobs.

Briggs pointed out that "it is a nice break from work [being able to] drive around and listen to tunes." Peritz added, "You also see a lot of people and get a good idea of what they are up to."

The guys agree, though, that it is mostly "just about helping people."

Last Tuesday, they felt like they were able to serve a larger part of the campus than usual. Peritz remarked, "I feel like we really served the Middlebury campus tonight. Okay, well, one in every 50 people, but that feels all right."

So, for a warm and pleasant ride to Bicentennial Hall or simply for a good time, call MiddRides on Tuesdays from 7:30 to 10:30 p.m. and ride with Briggs and Peritz.

Middlebury's Volunteer Culture Flourishes
MALT's February Break Trips Focus on Community Service

By Meghan Keenan
Staff Writer

Looking for a new way to become involved in Middlebury College's growing volunteer culture? Try Middlebury Alternative Breaks (MALT). One of several new volunteer opportunities, MALT sponsors trips to Boston, Washington, D.C., and Costa Rica over February break.

MALT began two years ago when Susannah Cowden '04 and Alana Sagin '04 organized a group of seven Middlebury students to travel to Costa Rica for 10 days to volunteer. The trip was a great success as it offered the experience of a lifetime — specifically an experience that could not be offered within the boundaries of the Middlebury community.

Volunteering at Middlebury
THE FIRST IN A THREE-PART SERIES

This inspired those involved to continue the tradition and establish a program that could be offered every February break. Although the trip did not run last year because many of the leaders were abroad, the program has been reinstated this year under the auspices of the Volunteer Services Organization (VSO).

In the spring, MALT hopes to become a more established and defined as a group separate from VSO.

This year, the program has expanded to include three separate trips organized by Cowden and Susannah Patty '06. The organizational process began in the fall with an application process open to all students. The Costa Rica excursion in particular attracted a large number of applicants. The applicant pool for all trips represented a number of students from each class year.

The leaders of each group also include an assortment of upper and underclassmen. Patty and Erin Jensen '04 are leading the trip to Boston, Adelaide Hearst '05 and Cowden are leading the Washington, D.C., trip and Lauren Miller '04 and Nora Segar '06 are in charge of the students heading to Costa Rica.

Fudraising ahs been key in getting the program off the ground.

"We wanted to be able to include everyone who was interested in these trips and not exclude anyone for financial reasons," Hearst emphasized

Some of the fundraising efforts currently underway are MALT T-shirts, which will be on sale in the near future, a 50/50 raffle at one of the Middlebury College hockey games, bake sales at various swim meets and possibly a benefit concert to be held in the Gamut Room.

To further cut costs, students participating in the Boston and Washington, D.C., trips will be driving to their destinations and staying in youth hostels in the area. Students will stay in homes with local families in Costa Rica.

The Boston trip will involve volunteer activities with various shelters around the city, specifically women's abuse and homeless shelters. Those attending the Costa Rica trip will be assisting local elementary schools, where volunteers often bring art supplies as gifts for the local children.

The Washington, D.C., trip will involve several different activities, beginning with a

See Malt, page 16

Computer Science Competitors Get With the Program

By Charlie Goulding
Assistant Features Editor

Who would have thought dividing four by two would be such a challenge? Last weekend, Middlebury College sent a team of competitors to a worldwide computing competition held by the Association of Computing Machinery at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

The team qualified for the regional competition after performing impressively at a preliminary tournament two weeks earlier. Though the team failed to qualify for the world competition — held this year in Prague — the competitors gave a strong showing and left feeling proud of their collective accomplishment.

The competition consisted of six to eight problems of varying difficulty to be completed correctly within a five-hour time frame. The school completing the most problems within those five hours won the tournament. In the event that multiple teams finished the same number of problems, a winner was identified based on the time required to complete each question.

Graeme Connell '05, one of Middlebury's three competitors, said, "The problem solving we had to do focused on the coding aspect more so than the theory."

For each problem, the team had to submit both a general explanation of the idea of the problem and also provide lines of text that could serve as the code by which the problem could be solved.

The type of problem presented in the competition may have been something as "simple" as writing a code that takes two numbers, divides them and then spits out the result.

Of course, any human could divide four by two quickly. The challenge for the computer scientist is to find a way to abstract the general essence of a problem from a particular example. As problems become more complex, abstractions keep things simple. In only a few lines of code, an elegant program can extend the computational power of a programmer well beyond his own means.

Without abstraction, a programmer would need to identify all "unique" or "hard" cases and address them individually. Depending on the size of the program, this could be a laborious, time-consuming task. With abstraction, however, even the extreme nuances of a problem are subsumed within the purview of the code, thus simplifying the task at hand and drastically reducing the burden on the programmer.

In the example above, dividing four by two is easy to program, but what about four by zero? This is where the real thinking and competition begins.

The challenges in the competition speak to the often misunderstood nature of computer science.

"The big misunderstanding about computer science is that it has anything to do with computers," said Connell. "If you were to look it up in the dictionary, it would say something like, 'the study of algorithms for purposes of problem solving.' We look at how problems work — computers help us to solve them faster."

The parameters that define and constrain computer science dramatically differ from those encasing other disciplines. Math defines certain abstract ideas, like what it means to be a circle, and develops theories and equations to flesh out the idea — to animate it. Art forms, like literature and paintings, take "truth" as their yardstick, presenting representations of the world to us as they are "in reality" or as they "ought" to be.

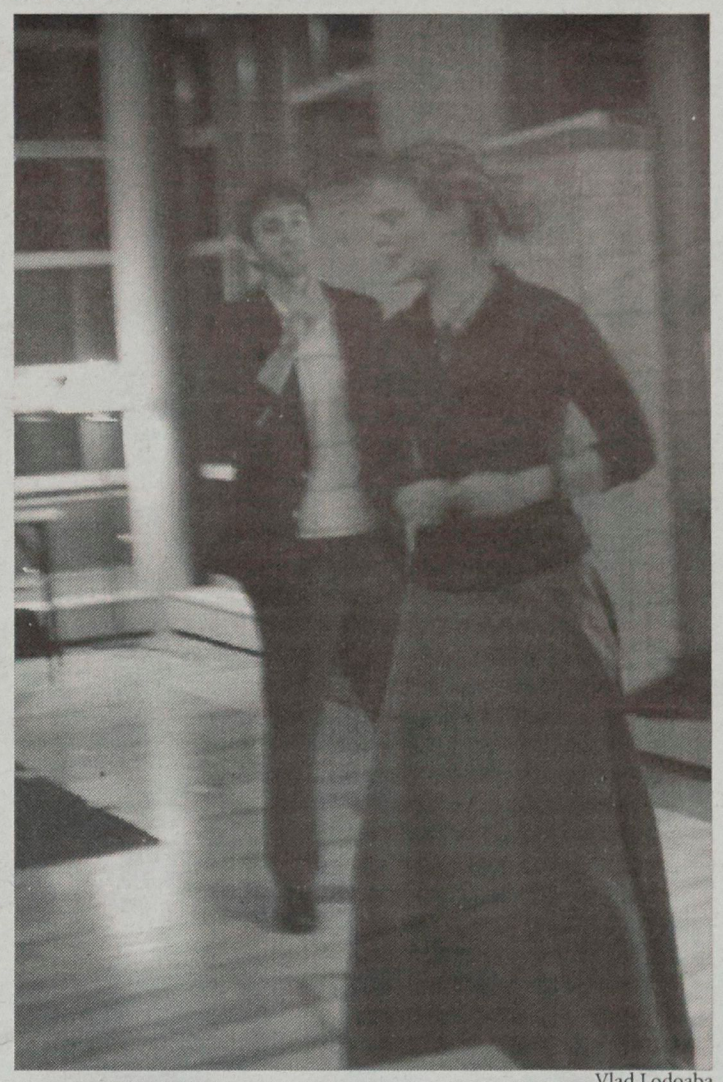
On the other hand, while computer science employs abstraction, it is not itself guided and shaped by abstract goals. It aims to solve problems quickly, to find simple solutions that save both human time and machine memory.

This is not to undercut the intellectual achievement of the discipline. Indeed, the revolutions in computation and data storage catalyzed by computer science have had monumental effects around the globe in the past half-century. Moreover, the discipline is far from finished. As Connell pointed out, "Computer science is still a relatively new subject and there's still a lot of growth left in it."

Yunpeng Li '05 was proud of his team's performance. "I was quite glad we made it [past the preliminaries], and into the regionals. We finished in the middle of the pack, with five schools finishing ahead of us and four or five finishing behind us, but we finished at the top of the small colleges."

MIT, the host of the competition, won the tournament. As computer science continues to grow, the success of Li, Connell and Carrick Detweiler '04 reflects impressive personal accomplishments as well as Middlebury's collective dedication to this burgeoning discipline.

Sneak Preview



Vlad Lodoaba

Performing in Ross Lounge last Tuesday, *Cassidy Freeman and Lucas Kavner offer a preview of "The Cherry Orchard," which opens Nov. 20.*

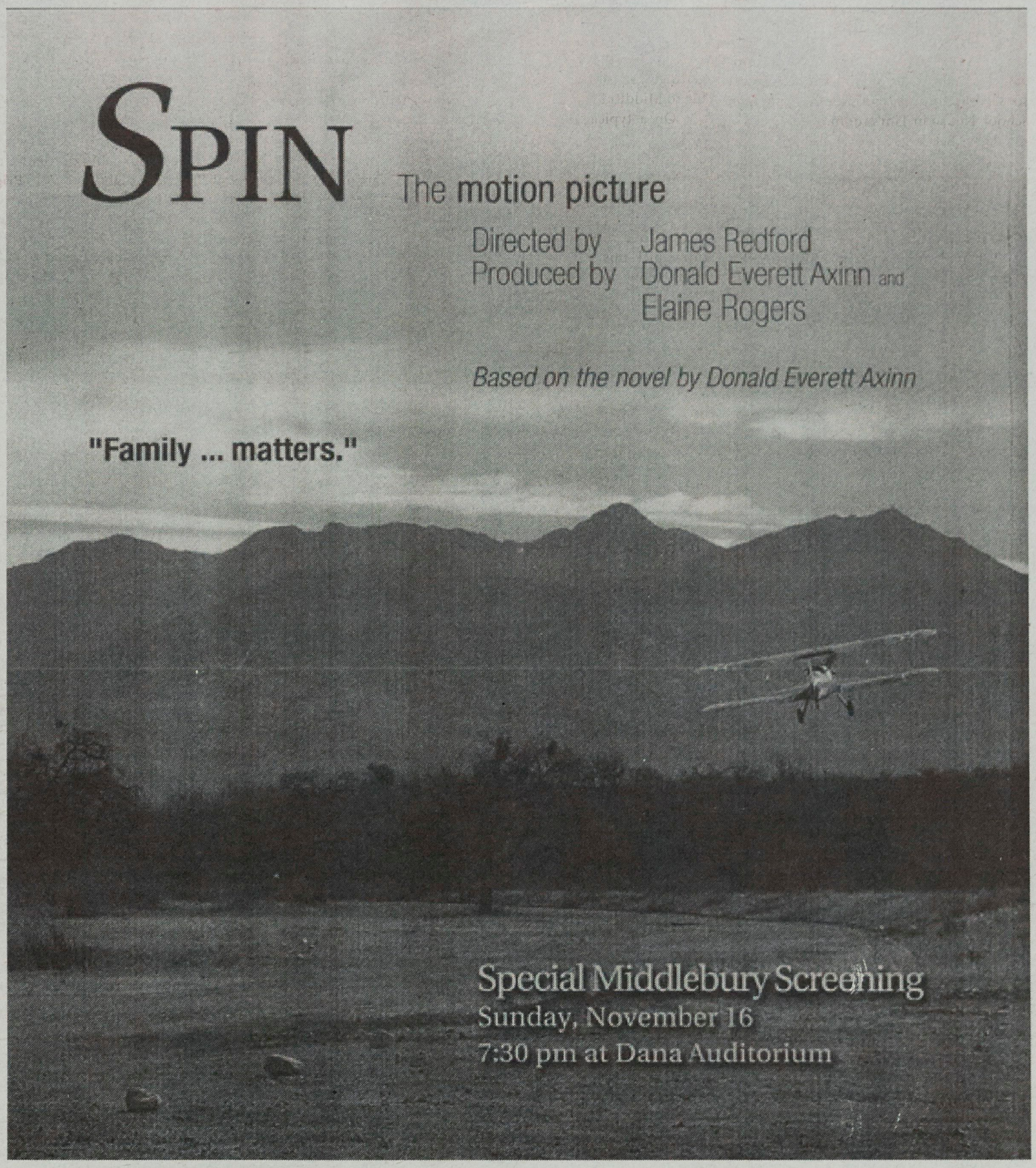
Pop Music's Image Aiken for Improvement

Continued from page 13

13-year-old white girls and old ladies naturally migrate first, but lo! The punk rock kids, sk8er bois and even the neighborhood's 'ghettoboys' (as I'm sure they were dubbed in the video's call sheet) are eventually transfixed by the song.

And, of course, in mid-diva, Clay embraces a crying fan, whose name I can only assume is Dorothy. This shows that Clay is so awe-inspiring that he can make young girls cry with joy by his very presence.

Clay is clearly a man who knows how to bring together all walks of life and likes to cuddle. When they recall the governor of North Carolina, I'll be achin' for Aiken.

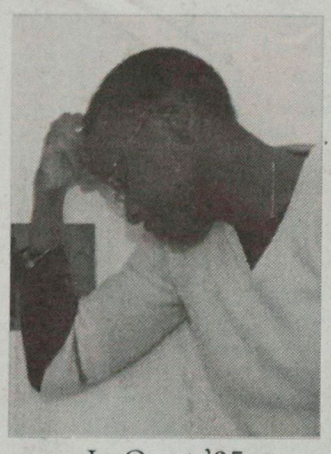

SPIN
The motion picture
Directed by James Redford
Produced by Donald Everett Axinn and Elaine Rogers
Based on the novel by Donald Everett Axinn
"Family ... matters."
Special Middlebury Screening
Sunday, November 16
7:30 pm at Dana Auditorium

Campus Faces

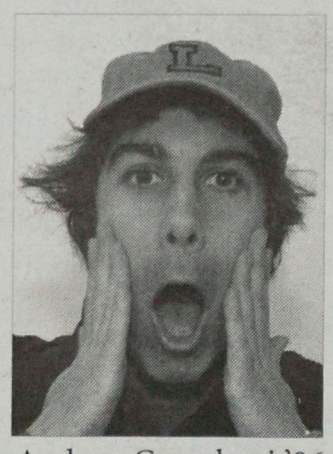
What's the best face you could make that would express your feelings if J-term were cancelled?

Compiled by Charlie Goulding

Photos by Vlad Lodoaba

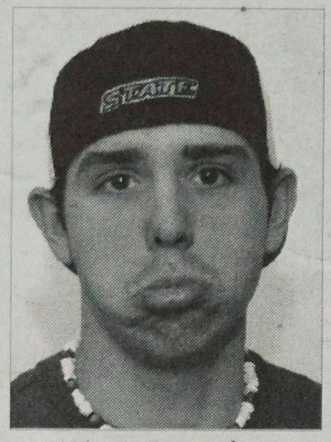


Jo Opot '05



Andrew Carnabuci '06

Julie Stevens '04

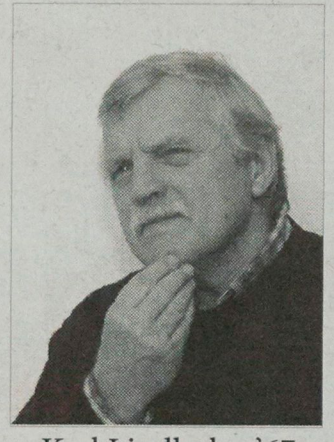


Tiger Lyon '07

Ljudmila Bilkic '07

Laura Rockefeller '04

Buck Sleeper '05



Karl Lindholm '67

Does Race Matter, Does It Exist?

Kendall Traces Legal Origins of Race

By Abigail Mitchell
Staff Writer

Schuyler Van Horn

Frances Kendall articulated her thoughts on race relations through a historical perspective on Monday.

Frances Kendall was engaged in conversation when she was told, "Race is purely a social construct." The implications of this statement were that race does not exist nor does it matter.

Kendall began to wonder, "Does race exist and does it matter?" This train of thought led to hours of sorting through Supreme Court rulings and even an in-depth examination of the U.S. Constitution to determine how race — as a social construct — is codified by the law. On Nov. 10, Kendall, who serves as a consultant on organizational change, came to Middlebury College to share her findings.

Kendall explained that she turned to history because "the history of the United States has been racialized since its beginning."

The laws have always served to create a hierarchy of races in which certain privileges are withheld from those on the bottom and granted to those on the top. Kendall first examined the original draft of the constitution which counted slaves as three-fifths of a person, one whole person being anyone who qualified as white. This distinction, according to Kendall's sources, marked "whiteness as a 'neutral baseline.'"

Then, Kendall turned to the Dred Scott case of 1856, which declared that blacks could not qualify as citizens due to their being a "subordinate and inferior class of beings." The year 1896 saw Plessy v. Ferguson, a decision that affirmed in law the "separate but equal" notion of segregation.

Throughout the lecture, Kendall asked students to evaluate how this information made them feel and what about it was unsettling. She paused once in a while to let the full weight of her words sink in.

Next, Kendall went on to talk about immigration.

She pointed out, "Being white remained a prerequisite to naturalization until 1952." Anyone entering the United States had to stand before the court and prove that he or she was white. A group of white men made a (fairly arbitrary) decision based on "common knowledge" and "scientific evidence."

For example, one denial of immigration was justified because "Asian Indians are probably not white." A later court ruled that "Asian Indians are white" after subjecting a potential immigrant to ocular inspection of his skin. The rulings were at the whim of the small group of white men and had a lot to do with their assessment of how much a person would "benefit" the United States.

Kendall then discussed laws that had a detrimental effect on other "non-white" races either living or seeking to live in the United States.

She looked at "Operation Wetback," in which 3.7 million Mexicans were deported in 1954. She cited the Chinese Exclusion Act of 1882, the California Alien Land Law of 1913 and Franklin Roosevelt's Japanese Internment of 1942.

The sum total of these laws is that "non-whites" have been forced into "erasing" their racial background in order to prove their "whiteness" so as to gain access to freedom and opportunity in the United States.

Does this still happen today?

Kendall recounted to her audience a particular conversation she had had with an African-American student attending a small liberal arts college. He mentioned that all his friends were white and that he barely felt black. Kendall attributed this reaction to the expectations of upper-middle class African-Americans to "act white."

At the end of her lecture, Kendall posed a hard question to the white students in the room. She asked whether any of them felt "white guilt" and, if so, whether they thought it was detrimental to them to feel so.

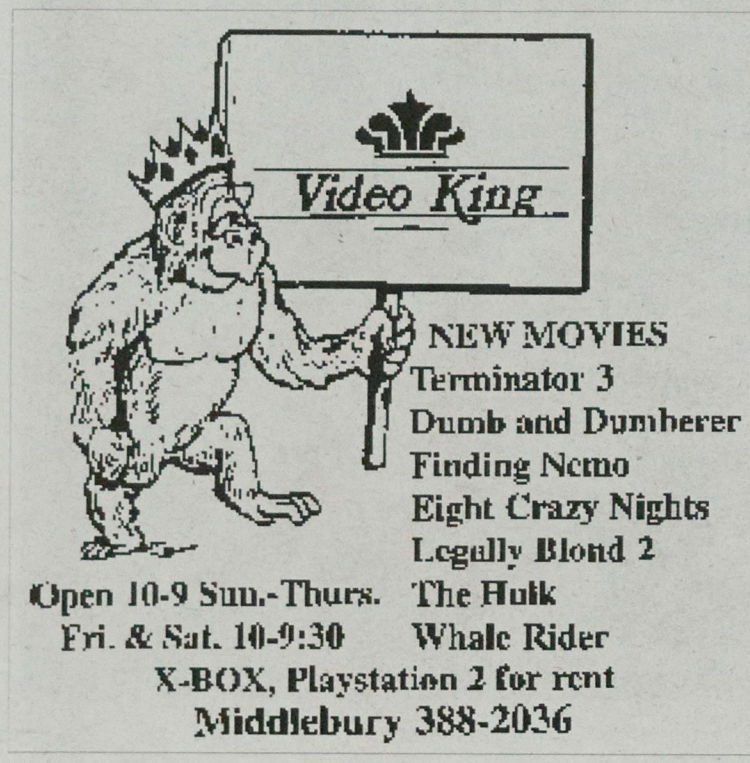
The overall consensus was that many whites had indeed grappled with "white guilt" but that, when it came down to it, the responsibility for a history of bad treatment did not lie in their hands.

Students believed that feeling guilty was not productive but that action in the here-and-now would be a more constructive medium for guilt.

An underlying message in Kendall's speech was the need to talk frankly about issues of diversity.

Kendall even said that if she could not openly discuss issues of race with her friends (white or not) then her relationships would be pretty shallow. She urged her audience to "accept the hand they've been dealt" and "do something with it." We should not ignore the presence of race.

Said Kendall with sincerity, "We can't move on until we talk about it."



MALT Shakes Up Volunteer Opportunities

Continued from page 14

two-day participation in a program similar to Habitat for Humanity. Students will work to help build low-income housing, as well as educate new homeowners about the responsibilities involved in owning a home.

The rest of the break will involve activities centered on AIDS volunteering.

The group will be working with Food and Friends, a program that makes and delivers food to those afflicted with the AIDS virus and other life-threatening illnesses including cancer.

Although still early in the organizational stages, co-leader Hearst also hopes to eventually become involved in the Student Global AIDS Campaign on Capitol Hill.

"Our major problem right now is that not enough students really know who we are yet and what we are trying to do. We are hoping to gain exposure and support from more of the campus community through our breaks this year," Hearst noted.

MALT is only one part of the growing volunteer community here at Middlebury.

Affiliated with Tiffany Sargent and the Alliance for Civic Engagement Office (formerly the Community Service, Service-Learning and Student Employment Office), those involved are trying to increase campus awareness of the many opportunities offered through the office.

To learn more about these opportunities, visit the ACE office in McCullough, where weekly postings will highlight upcoming events.

We are hoping to gain exposure and support from more of the campus community through our breaks this year.

—Adelaide Hearst '05

Photographer Exposes Social Issues Through Portraiture

By Chris Grosso
Arts Editor

Vincent van Gogh once said, "I tell you, the more I think, the more I feel that there is nothing more truly artistic than to love people." Artists have the ability to take the living and use it in a certain way to produce art, and it is their work that leaves us to ponder about the human psyche.

In a lecture on Thursday, Nov. 6 at Middlebury College, John Willis, a local documentary photographer and Professor at Marlboro College in Brattleboro, Vt., presented his dramatic photographs, discussed his approach to capturing the human form and shared his history in photography. His impressive portfolio is a composite of documentary and human images, which comment on the human condition.

In 1973, when Willis was in high school, his social circle pressured him to pick up a camera. Ironically after one class, John got hooked while his friends stopped exploring with the lens. To satisfy his creative desires, he attended Evergreen State College in Washington and studied photography and child psychology. For his senior project, he wanted to focus on the elderly in nursing homes, but his advisor discouraged him because of his shyness. Willis' mentor informed him that he needed to learn how to take people's portraits — so John decided to study individuals on the city streets of the Northwest. On the opening night of his senior show, he hung 16"x 20" prints around the gallery. He explained, "My work demanded a lot of the viewer. I was showing pictures of people from every race, religion and ecónomic background." To capture his subjects' portraits, he explained, "I focused on the nose. I hoped that people would understand the humanity I was trying to capture. I wanted the viewer to view everyone as equal." Unfortunately the baggage of the viewers was related to the images, and Willis was disappointed by their responses.

After graduating from college, he moved to Vermont where he creatively explored farm animal portraitures. He says, "I photographed clichés, but I made more than the cliché." With this comment, a portrait of ducklings crossing a muddy path was spread across the screen.

One of Willis' concentrations has been the elderly. Since his college career, he had been interested in capturing the faces of nursing home residents. When he began the project, Willis wanted to use photography as a means to change society. He wanted to promote social reform for elderly care. To a man who loves the art form and radiates the utmost energy and ardor when discussing his work, the intensity of his work is no surprise. At a diner where Willis was a frequent patron, he met an elderly man, Edward LeMay, who loved socializing. They became friends and he allowed Willis to photograph him. The study permitted Willis to practice with his camera and satisfied the elder man's desire to chat. The products were anything but rough sketches. They were intimate and personal images of a real individual. The platinum palladium prints were some of Willis' first explorations in elderly portraitures.

After receiving his M.F.A. from the Rhode Island School of Design in 1986, Willis soon established himself as a photographer of nursing homes, among other things. His ability to capture the persona of his sitters is unique. In one of his series, he photographed a lady named Frida Stern. She was a proud woman and one of myriad types of people in nursing homes. Her up-close-and-personal portraits portrayed the personality of an experienced and vivid individual. More notably, Willis interrupted Frida's meditation as the nurses explained that she didn't hear anymore and she had lost her mind.

Another of his major projects has been his work on Native American reservations out West. Once again, Willis has developed a symbiotic relationship with his subjects. His deep connection with a family in North Dakota has made him more conscious of his use of their photos. He wants to please them, the cause he's trying to promote and himself as an artist.

When asked his opinion about digital photography, he responded, "The new photography requires different tools." Willis remains partial to the old-fashioned black-and-white photographic processes — "I have and will always love playing with the craft in the dark-room," he said.

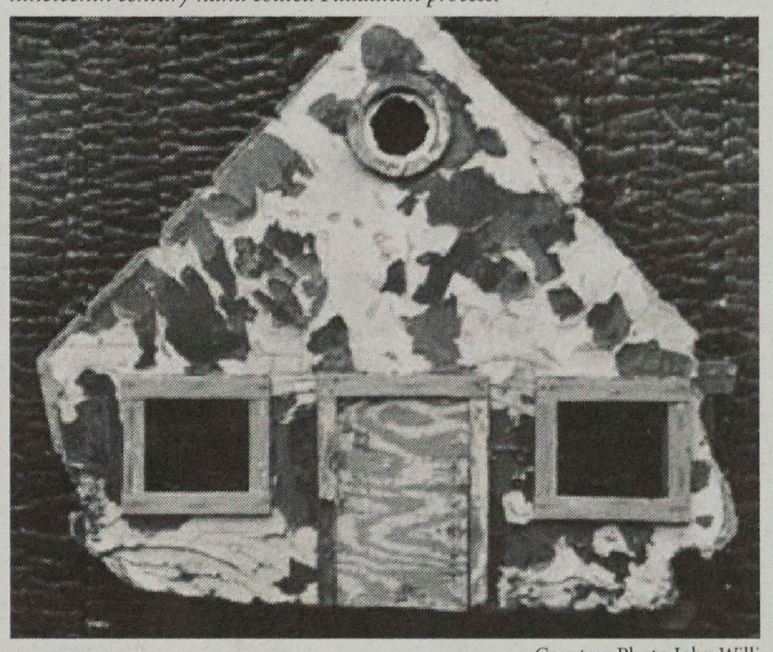
It is inspiring to see how a man has pursued his passion and used it to affect the lives of others. He has spent much of his life teaching photography in diverse settings. He has worked with people of all age groups — elementary school students to college kids to residents in nursing homes. He now teaches at Marlboro College and is the co-founder of The In-Sight Photography Project, a non-profit program that teaches photography to adolescents. This past summer Willis led a teaching program to North Dakota, where he and 17 students taught photography to Lakota children for a month.

Willis' sincerity, compassion and humanity emanate from his work and his disposition. He explained that he was a bit nervous to show his personal work because it means so much to him. "A photo is a visual language and way for people to express themselves and their subjects," he says. "I like using cameras as a way to explore things, and I love photography." On his Web site, Willis expresses, "One thing is clear, that the beauty in photography often lies on the other side of the lens."

To learn more about Willis' career and see some of his work, you can visit http://www.jwillis.net/.

Courtesy Photo John Willis

Willis captures a portrait of Frida Stern in a 5"x7" contact prints made in the nineteenth century hand coated Palladium process.



Courtesy Photo John Willi

Willis and a colleague photographed the visual remnants of a North Hampton State Hospital. The contact toned gelatin silver print presents a fragment of an old style asylum. .

Thursdays at the Museum 8:00–11:00 P.M.

museum UNPLUGGED

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November 20 **The Pass,** *blues/rock*
December 4 **Ditty Steele,** *acoustic folk*

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Is It Art?

by Abbie Beane

Sure mom always told you not to play with your food, but most of you are in college now and that means it's time to move beyond all of those pre-packaged ideas — so to speak. The beef this week? Ground chuck meats art, and yes, that spelling error was intentional. Just when you thought it was bad enough that all of those "evil carnivores" were killing animals for their edible potential (an unnatural and newly developing phenomenon), now they're killing for "art" — or what they call art anyway.

Surrealist sculptures, created with the help of thinly sliced beef, could be labeled as nothing less than "meat sculpture" and comprise what some artists declare a "proteinaceous genre" — an art form that lends a hand to talking about issues of sexuality and carnality in the unconscious mind. Often in vernacular or colloquial, "uncouth" language, people talk about others as "pieces of meat" to express a sexual concept, despite the negative connotations of this metaphor. Yet the analogy linking meat to carnality, meat artists claim, is undeniably significant.

It was Georges Bataille who elucidated the underlying connection between eroticism and mortality or, in layman's terms, between sex and death, in "The Tears of Eros," published in 1989. Images of meat art take the connection between carnage and carnality to poetic heights, suggesting the link between flesh for gastronomic consumption and flesh intended for sexual consumption, awakening domains of reality normally pent up in the cages of political correctness.

The sculptures stand as a "poetic rebellion" against an age of sexual repression — a chance for the unconscious mind to work in tandem with the conscious mind.

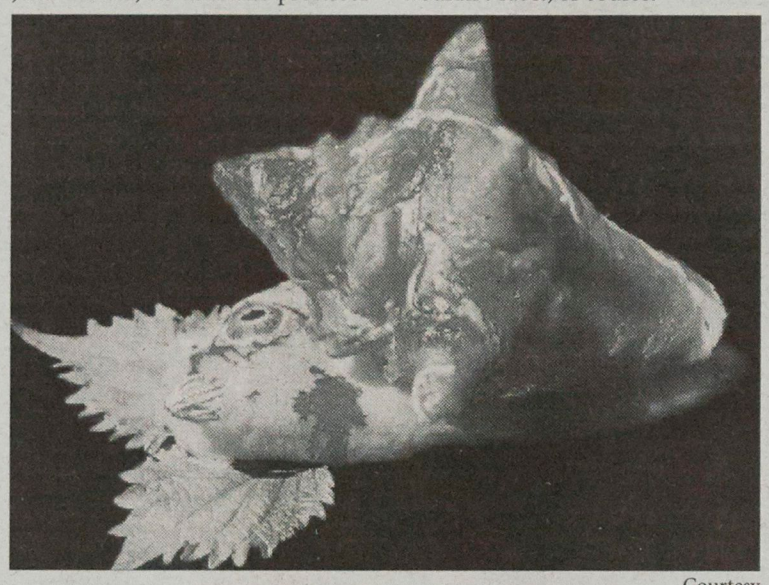
And artists who mold beefy sculptures for meat art galleries are not the only ones thinking about the aesthetic value of animal flesh. John Wolfer, an assistant professor of art at the University of Cincinnati-Raymond Walters College, hosted a show at the Carnegie Visual and Performing Arts Center in Covington from Feb. 28 to April 4 of this year titled, "Lean and Tasty." This was the first time that meat art earned a top billing at Carnegie. The artist made a name for himself by painting explicit portraits of thick steaks, pink ham and heaping pans of tender, ground beef.

"Tons of people came in really curious," said Bill Seitz, Carnegie gallery director told *The Cincinnati Enquirer*. "And many who came weren't typical gallery patrons. They'd walk in and ask: Where are the meat paintings?" There were, however, minor confrontations with animal rights activists at the gallery.

The question is, how did Wolfer cook this idea up? Well, he was first exposed to raw meat while working with his father, Don, at his Delhi butcher shop where he discovered his talent for painting his father at work, as well as chops, steak and sausages, which he also photographed quite frequently. His first still-life was a well-marbled porterhouse steak.

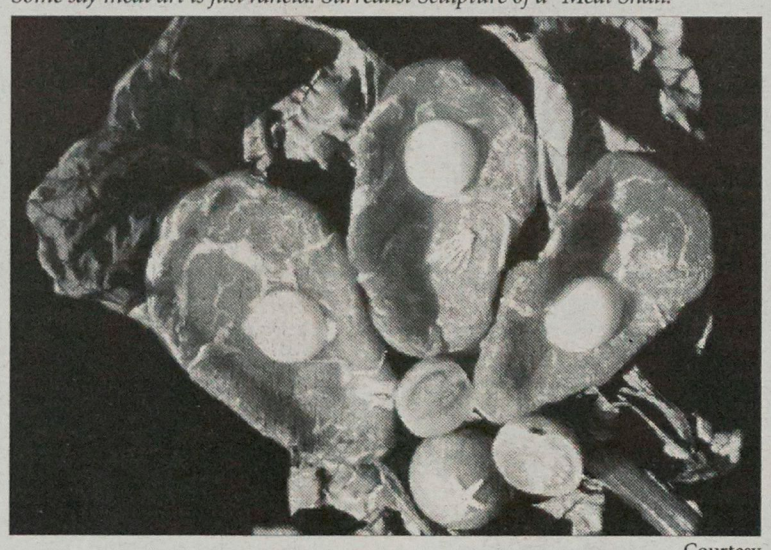
His greatest influences include Rembrandt, Chaim, Soutine and Wayne Thiebaud who gained recognition for painting pies, cakes and other food in the 1960s. His next paintings will be based on Peter Bruegel, who did "quirky" paintings of peasants wandering around landscapes carrying birds as they returned from the hunt. Wolfer wants to depict the same situation, except he'll be carrying meat. "In my paintings, I'll be the one wandering around the landscapes," Wolfer told *The Cincinnati Enquirer*, "and I'll be carrying big cuts of meat, like a side of beef."

Don't decide now — just chew on the idea for awhile, and if you find it too much to swallow, don't pick a bone with me. Its not my "art," which doesn't mean I wouldn't eat it, of course.



Courtesy

Some say meat art is just rancid: Surrealist Sculpture of a "Meat Snail."



Courtesy

The sculpture, "Meat Oyster," sits pretty for some and doesn't sit well with others.

Spicy Dance Fiesta By Matteson

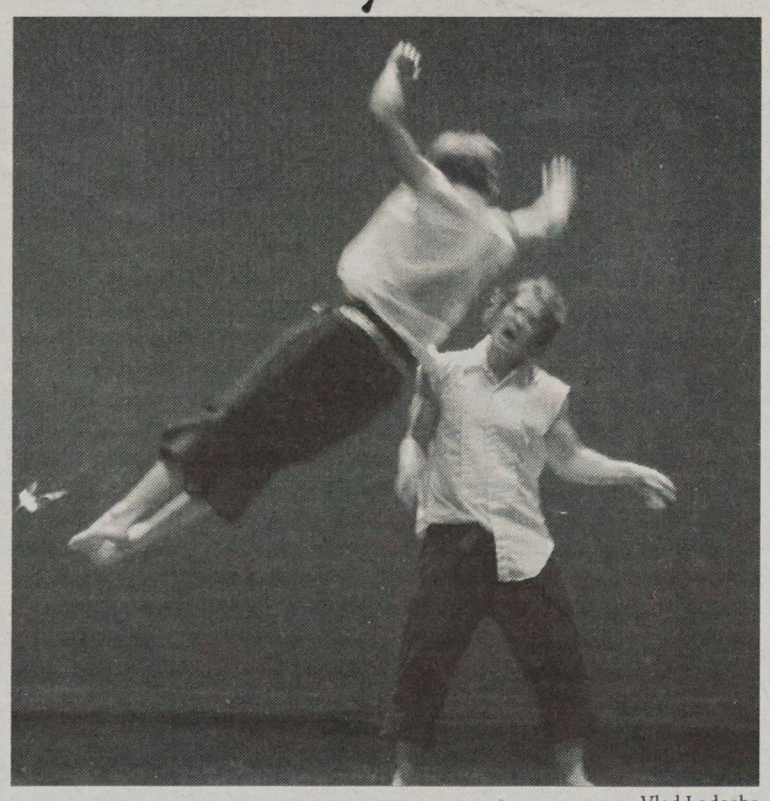
By Chris Grosso

Arts Editor

The audience is sitting in a circle on the Dance Theater floor. The intimate arrangement encompasses two men dressed in three-quarter black pants and sleeveless white-collared shirts. They glide around the arena with the grace, poise and confidence of a matador on the onset of combat. The Spanish "Bolero" music permeates the air while the audience holds its breath. Expecting a display of graceful and elegant movements, the men charge at each other and the battle begins.

On Nov. 7 and 8, award-winning dancer Paul Matteson '00 put up his show "Paul Matteson and Friends: In Concert." He performed with Amy Chavasse, Middlebury College Artist-in-Residence, and Joseph Poulson, one of Matteson's fellow members in David Dorfman Dance, a New York-based company. The event, a dance concert consisting of three new pieces, was a passionate and inspiring exploration of movement.

"!Bullseye!," the second piece of the night, was an entangled and physical duet and some of the most beautiful fighting imaginable. Matteson and Poulson dueled with a bull-fighting motif in mind. The improvisational game blended camaraderie and competition to create a highly energizing scene. Middlebury College Visiting Artist in Dance and Theatre Peter Schmitz, standing on the outside of the circle, served as the commentator and added a comedic element as he antagonized the dancers. Their draining performance enthralled the spectators in the span of 20 minutes, making them laugh and gasp, leaving them speechless and asking themselves, "Are they hurt?" The lifts left the audience awestruck and the fearless charging was exciting. The movements were characterized by sharp turns, stamping of the feet and pauses in position. The intensity was rousing and left me wanting to engage in combat.



Vlad Lodoaba

Matteson magnificently and violently sours through the air and counters his opponent Poulson.

In definite contrast to "!Bullseye!" was "Rock Steady," the opening piece. Chavasse's solo was a striking presentation. Matteson, the choreographer, succeeded in communicating the idea of performing for oneself. As the lights were turned on, Chavasse presided over the intimidating Dance Theater and didn't seem to take notice of the audience. Throughout her solo, she randomly but deliberately sang. She was dancing for herself and her style was raw but demonstrated the utmost maturity and self-control via her delicate and fluid movements. Her poise was charming and she stirred feelings of sensuality — especially with those dramatic hip thrusts.

The final piece "I Simply Live Now" captured that moment a person experiences just before a decision is made. Matteson's lengthy solo demonstrated his versatility as an artist. The piece was a solo choreographed for Matteson by Schmitz. The simplistic set was adorned with white rocks carefully organized into four corners and served as a path that Matteson seemed to follow through his movements. He brilliantly played with a few dance sequences to compose a dramatic story. Dressed in a suit, his performance conjured an image of soul-searching as he dramatically recited lines to a narrative and seemed to embrace the life around him.

Matteson's show was a testament to his creativity and talent as a director, choreographer and dancer. He combined the sublime with the natural to offer a revealing and real commentary on human expression.

Saunders Honored with New Professorship

By Chris Grosso

Arts Editor

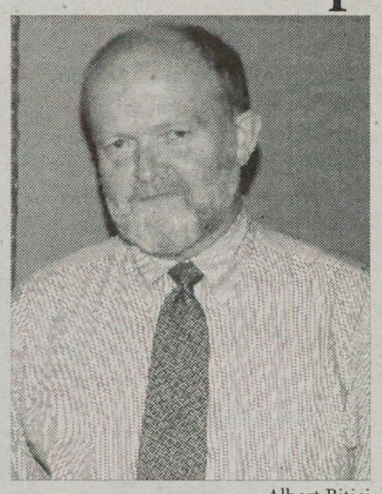
The term "Arcadia" is reserved to identify a special place of simple pleasure and tranquility. Arcadian landscapes have furnished countless paintings and served as backdrops to pastoral poetries. To characterize a region in such a way is a testament to its magnificence. For almost two decades, Richard H. Saunders, the director of the Middlebury College's Museum of Art, has witnessed and taken part in fostering a similar atmosphere at Middlebury.

On Tuesday, Nov. 4, Saunders, in his inaugural lecture as Walter Cerf Distinguished College Professor, explained, "For the past 10 to 15 years, Middlebury has been an Arcadian environment — its campus, its people and its programs of unequal caliber. The museum has been a small part of this greatness." Since his arrival Saunders has played an integral role in energizing the Museum and supporting the arts at Middlebury.

Saunders came to the College in 1985, and during his time here, the Museum has profited from successful fundraising, expanded from the original galleries in Johnson to the CFA, hosted over 100 exhibits and published over 100 catalogs. He has prepared several manuscripts on "The American Face: Portraits from 1675 – 2000." He is a Trustee of the Shelburne Museum and a consultant of American Folk Art for Sotheby's. His most recent achievement, a tribute to his dedication and loyalty, is his appointment to the Walter Cerf Distinguished College Professorship.

Walter Cerf was born in Berlin in 1907 to a wealthy Jewish family that owned a major European securities firm. After earning a philosophy degree in Germany, he came to America in 1936 with his family, leaving much of their fortune behind. Cerf was driven to succeed in his adopted home. He quickly learned English and enrolled at Princeton University, where he would go on to earn a Ph.D. in philosophy and become a world-class professor. When Cerf retired from teaching and moved to Lancaster, Vt., he nurtured his love for art and education. He attended galleries and arts shows, appraising artwork and accumulating his own collection. Art, along with Cerf's other interests such as business, science and philosophy, became an inspiration for philanthropy. Cerf died Oct. 26, 2001, leaving $20 million to be divided between Princeton, Brooklyn College and the Weizmann Institute for Science in Israel. Cerf also left a good portion of his estate to Middlebury College.

It is with this money that the Cerf Professorship has been endowed. The position is a culmination and symbol of Cerf's dedication, generosity and passion for art and education. Saunders is honored to celebrate his close friend's life.



Albert Bitici

Cerf Professor Saunders will be teaching the course — The American Face in the spring.

In his first lecture as the Distinguished Professor, Saunders focused on "An American Painter in Arcadia: Jasper Cropsey in Italy, 1847-1849." In front of a healthy crowd in Dana Auditorium, he enthusiastically spoke about the itinerant history and the picture postcard-like work of the nineteenth century American painter. Saunders explained that the recent acquisition of the College is typical of Cropsey's later work — the motif of New England autumn with glorious and brilliant color.

The subject of Saunder's lecture was fitting since Cerf was drawn to Vermont because of its picturesque towns and agricultural landscape, which physically reminded him of his German homeland — and was similar to the landscapes of Cropsey.

I Fagiolini Cooks Up Chorals and Character

By Abbie Beane
Arts Editor

If it had not performed in the Center for the Arts Concert Hall, one may have been hard pressed to tell I Fagiolini, a distinguished English choral ensemble, apart from a group of experienced actors and actresses. Not only did the ensemble's performance on Thursday night ring with the sensational chords of altos and tenors, but also with animated theatrics comparable to a troupe of expert comedians.

I Fagiolini (pronounced fajoleenee) Italian for "the little beans," has sung at Middlebury in the past, putting on a show in 1999 when they were in residence coaching various Middlebury singing groups. And this year the College's Chamber Singers were lucky enough to harness the group's wise words of musical know-how when they worked together last week. The community also had the good fortune of having the opportunity to watch a fine-tuned concert, where I Fagiolini generously dished up a second helping of their vocal worth.

As distinctive figures on the world vocal scene who have played everywhere from Western Europe to Hong Kong and Egypt, I Fagiolini is far from a group of starving artists obligated to play for the small college category in order to round up a following. Long established, I Fagiolini's reputation is grounded in the classics of Renaissance vocal ensemble and flagged by a spirited approach. As further testimony, the group has even released 12 CDs, the most recent being, "Thomas Tomkins — Music Divine" and "Andrea Gabrieli — The Madrigal in Venice: Politics, Dialogues and Pastorales." This is, however, their first full U.S. tour.

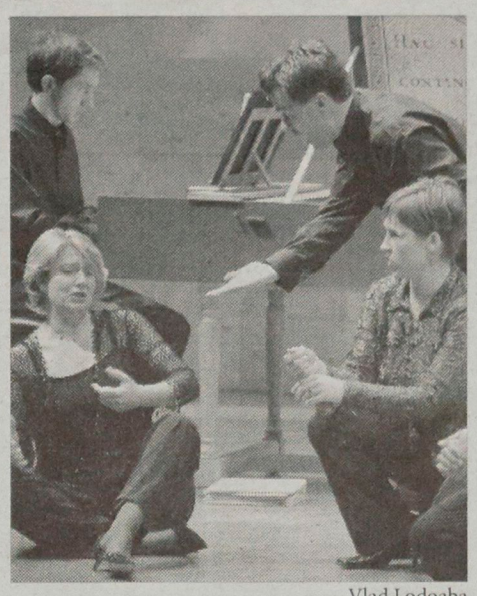
I Fagiolini devoted the first part of their performance to renowned English composer, Thomas Tomkins (1572-1656), singing "See, See the Shepards Queen," "Weep no More" and "When David Heard." Striding onto the stage, dressed mostly in black, Fagiolini looked professional, but not imposing, confident, yet amiable, exuding a warmth and a sound that filled the silence of the hall.

The following trio of songs really picked up the pace, paying homage to Italian composer, and arguably the most important musician in the late 16th and early 17th century, Claudio Monteverdi. The three madrigals from "Il quarto libro de madrigali" brimmed with expressions of embittered love and a sobering recognition of the pain, abandon and risk that passion for another uncontrollable human being entails. The first piece was well executed, the leading soprano lending energy to the four other singers, while the second I Fagiolini described as "erotic" and the third as a song filled with "musical bits of word painting."

Finally, the third set of songs courtesy of Tompkins, I Fagiolini described as "one of the finest collections of the age," although people tend to think of it as an "afterthought." The most charged song of the trio was "Too much I once lamented," which contained a laughable number of "fa la las," that I Fagiolini called an "excuse for dancing." Almost sarcastically, Robert Hollingsworth, spokesman of the group continued, "They are expressions that couldn't take words. They were so powerful." The vocalist standing like a tall, brawny and jolly bookend on the periphery of the ensemble, in spirit was at the center of it, stealing the show with his relentless, animated grin and boisterous mannerisms. First he would act in refusal of the "fa la las," and then abruptly, he would happily embrace them, delighting the audience.

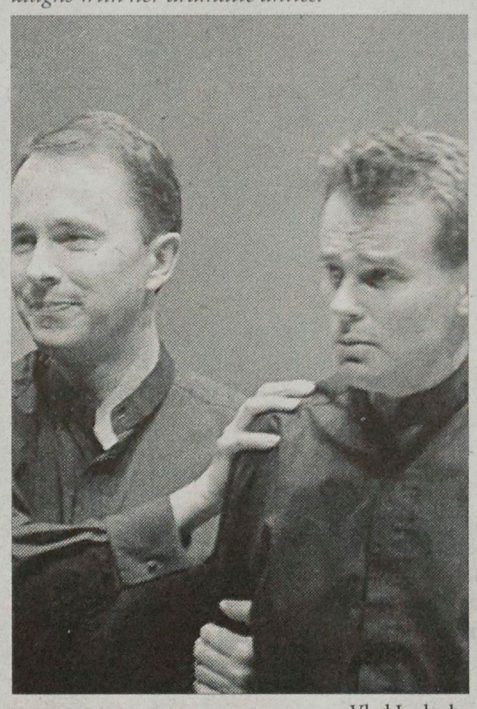
The last half of the performance may have been the most memorable, serving as a platform to exhibit comedic types, which when incorporated into the vocals, made for a more entertaining and well-rounded final product. With the Hall's harpsichord dressed up as a boat, the audience was meant to take a trip up the canal from Venice to Padua to meet this hoard of characters. From the quayside departure among noisy gondoliers, some of the passengers introduced themselves (being a courtesan, a moneylender and a drunken German) to do a little of bad singing. Yet this innocuous bit of fun turned into the amorous details of the education of Rizzolina, a commedia stereotypes, transforming the boat into a spicy cruise vessel right out of the popular dating show "Ship Mates." A prayer-meeting was then broken up by more madrigals and popular love songs while the male vocalists attempted to woo the two ladies of the ensemble.

I Fagiolini warned the audience of two things — first of all, that the humor in the opening explanations of each scene of the story would not be politically correct, and secondly that some of the comedic characters may not be familiar since their language would be filled with "clever jokes in Venetian dialect." I Fagiolini also cautioned any Tuscan Italians in the audience that the ensemble would be singing collectively in a Venetian accent. "There are always one or two in a crowd," the spokesman said. And it was with this sprinkling of charm, dash of humor and dollop of talent that I Fagiolini successfully won the support of the College in the second round. I Fagiolini exited on a standing ovation.



Vlad Lodoaba

The animated I Fagiolini serves up a bunch of laughs with her dramatic antics.



Vlad Lodoaba

Two members of I Fagiolini embrace each other in a brief moment of distress.

Vlad Lodoaba

The English choral ensemble serenades and entertains a packed Concert Hall.

Editors' Picks

(Hey, get outta town.)

Chris' Pick

MARTY POTTENGER'S "ABUNDANCE:" In her Obie Award-winning "City Water Tunnel #3," Marty Pottenger took a rapt Flynn audience hundreds of feet beneath the sidewalks of New York. Now this acclaimed theater artist returns with a fascinating, dramatic look at the hidden worlds of household budgets, debt, banking and international finance. "Abundance" is written and directed by Pottenger with original music by Terry Dame and choreography by Jawole Willa Jo Zollar of Urban Bush Women. It was developed through three years of interviews and workshops with minimum-wage workers and multi-millionaires across the United States, including Vermont. Five performers bring this multimedia work to life through dialog, movement, music and inventive visuals, illuminating the collective impact of money on our lives.
When: Thursday, Nov. 13 to Friday, Nov. 14
Time: 8 p.m.
Where: FlynnSpace, Burlington
Price: $20 adults | $16 students
Info: www.flynncenter.com

Abbie's Pick

RAHZEL (OF THE ROOTS) LIFESAVAS | THE SPOOKS: Probably best known in the semi-mainstream world as a member of the Roots, Rahzel is an MC that specializes in the "fifth element" of hip-hop culture — beatboxing (along with graffiti, DJs, MCs and B-Boys). He actively discourages classification of his sound, attempting to remain on the eclectic edge of commercial music. His goal is to gain respect for beatboxing as a true art form on its own merits. Growing up, Rahzel looked up to his cousin Rahim of the Furious Five, and went to Grandmaster Flash's shows regularly. Rahzel has in fact mastered the art of beatboxing, able to recreate full songs and accompany himself without instrumentation, able to sing a chorus and provide a backing beat simultaneously and able to invoke impressions of singers and rappers on a whim.
When: Sunday, Nov. 16
Time: 9 p.m. | 18+
Where: Higher Ground, Winooski
Price: $18 advance | $20 day of show
Info: www.higherground.com

The Reel Critic
by Matthew Clark

"Finding Nemo" is one of those animated movies you don't have to be a kid to enjoy. Watch it with your little brother, your college buddies or your folks, and I guarantee a good time. It's an animated epic. Through pink jelly tentacles, riding on a turtle's back on the EAC (East Atlantic Current) and even trapped in the belly of a whale, though aided by a little, blue amnesic fish named Dory, Marlin searches the vast blue for his only remaining child, Nemo. For me, "Finding Nemo" has the same effect as "Singing in the Rain" — I can't help feeling great after I'm through watching it.

I was only a little bit disappointed with "Nemo" when I felt like Pixar was trying to give a lesson in parenting. Marlin is the overly involved father who is so concerned for his child's welfare that he won't let the kid try anything on his own. "Nemo's not a good swimmer, he's got a bad fin." "You can't do it Nemo!" says his father, followed by a curt "Nemo, come back here!" At one point in his search he laments to Dory that he promised Nemo he'd never let anything happen to him. Dory wisely replies, "But you have to, or else nothing would ever happen." And of course in the end, Marlin does trust Nemo and has become a model clown fish father.

"Nemo" does have enough humor and animated spectacles, however, to keep me interested and entertained through these slower "moral moments." Dory and Bruce meet three "nice" sharks and sit in on their "fish are friends" AA-type meeting where they introduce themselves and confess the last time they ate fish. Seagulls are brilliantly portrayed squawking in Australian accents, "Mine. Mine. Mine." And two "lobstahs" from Boston chime into the film with, "It's wicked daahk down here." The inhabitants of the dentist's fish tank, where Nemo is taken, observe the operations like Jerry and Kramer without the junior mints (a reference to an episode of "Seinfeld" where Kramer drops a junior mint into a patient being operated on in the emergency room), muscling for a better view. The list of sound bites could go on and on.

I remember reading a high-brow review of "Nemo" this summer when it first came to theaters. The reviewer slammed the movie, talking about how no matter how good the animation or the jokes, the characters were just fish. The fish didn't bother me at all. It was a bit fishy, but Pixar, the animation studio where the movie was produced, makes the faces of sharks, turtles and pelicans come alive. No matter what form the characters take, they are still characters carrying human emotions and feelings. Do you have to look human to be internally complex, to be interesting? I was attached to everyone, even Dory, who provokes a similar feeling of annoyance, though not quite as intense as the annoyance felt by watching Jar-jar Binks, the character in the latest versions of Star Wars with the webbed feet and floppy ears, who is also terribley uncoordinated, flopping, stuttering and cracking bad jokes throughout the whole movie.

Just relax, get over the fishiness, pop some Kettle Corn and have fun watching the movie. "Nemo" is not a film of deep philosophical insights, it is a movie to simply enjoy. And I figure that's why we watch movies anyway — for enjoyment. Sometimes profundity is important, yet sometimes it's unnecessary. I didn't need it from "Nemo." Like art, not all critics agree on quality, but what's important is the feeling that the piece provokes.

Finding Nemo
Rating: G
Running Time: 1 hr. 41 min.
Cast: Albert Brooks, Willem Dafoe, Ellen DeGeneres
Director: Andrew Stanton

Literary Picks

by Edward Pickering

Title: "Undertones of War""
Author: Edmund Blunden
First Publication: 1928

Edmund Blunden is not among the most famous poets of the First World War, a distinction reserved for Siegfried Sassoon, Wilfred Owen, Rupert Brooke, Robert Graves, Isaac Rosenberg and possibly Edward Thomas. Blunden, it is fair to say, dispels a gentler light than these luminaries. His poetry is not so widely read as theirs and his memoir, "Undertones of War," is all but forgotten. However, in 1928, Blunden's memoir sold out on the day of its first appearance.

We are accustomed to graphic accounts of warfare, to a brutal realism in which shrapnel fragments and gut-wrenching terror are rendered in intimate detail. We regard as suspicious or false all war chronicles that do not conform in this respect. "Undertones of War" will put off contemporary readers, but they would be foolish and unfair to criticize the work on grounds that it does not meet their expectations. The memoir offers great rewards to those who persevere. It offers a unique testimony whose very strength is its narrowness and concentration. Reading the memoir is something like viewing the war through a tiny shard of stained glass. That heavily tinctured shard is the poetic sensibility of a young man who discovered tranquility and beauty even amidst the carnage.

Though he describes entrenchments, offensives and the like in great and conscientious detail, Blunden concentrates not on the intricacies and horror of battle so much as the moments away from battle. Blunden served gallantly in the trenches but he *lived* in the tranquil fields and silent copses, dignified chateaux and peaceful villages of the landscape behind those trenches. The key to understanding and appreciating Blunden rests in the opening word of the title — "Undertones." Blunden celebrates the natural beauty and seasonal variance of life on the verge of the war. When withdrawn from the frontlines for temporary rest, training or redeployment, Blunden often found himself in untouched countryside and untroubled hamlets. Though death was always near, hovering in the air like the report of artillery, Blunden managed to find a measure of solace, to stumble upon moments of pure happiness.

"The day was gloomy, but to be "stepping westward" among common things of life made it light enough. [. . .] We passed over hills still green, and by mossy cottages, with onions drying under the eaves. It was as though war forgot some corners of Flanders. (Next year war, remembered that corner with a vengeance.)"

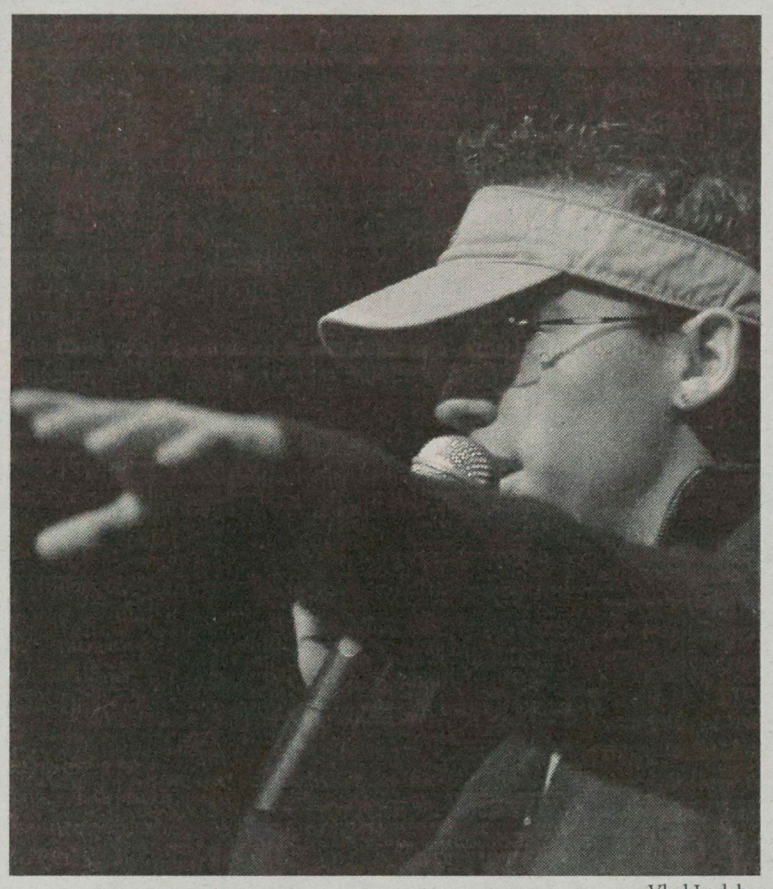
A shy, gentle Englishman, only 20 at the time of his service, Blunden endured some of the war's worst engagements, including the Somme and Ypres. Miraculously he survived without a single physical wound. Possessed of a deep poetic urge, Blunden wrote and published several volumes of verse during the war. The style in which "Undertones of War" is written may strike readers as florid and distancing— a poetic gloss of horrid realities, an especial hostile critic might say. Admittedly, Blunden's prose fares ill by today's standards of taste. Like a poem, the memoir demands re-perusal and mulling over, not slapdash page-turning.

Middance Trumpets a Worthy Cause

Student Performers Peace Together Eclectic Styles to Unravel Violence

Vlad Lodoaba

The Middlebury College cheerleaders displayed their acrobatics and spirits in a cameo appearance.



Vlad Lodaba

The master of ceremonies entertains the crowd.

By Laura Rockefeller
Staff Writer

"We represent individuals of the world from all walks of life, all corners of the globe and all faiths of the heart. Yet in a world that is divided by hate and difference, we have come together to unite in our passion for dance. We represent the power of dance, the celebration of difference and the teaching of tolerance. We stand for peace." This was the statement on the cover of the program for Middance's fourth annual Fall Show, "Respect," that went up in McCullough Social Space on Saturday night.

The performance certainly reflected the different backgrounds of the dancers, with numbers ranging from hip-hop to classical ballet, united by the performers' clear love of their art. Although the caliber of the dancing varied, the enthusiasm of the performers never wavered — an enthusiasm that quickly infected the audience, aided by the energetic emcees. At times the audience was almost as entertaining to watch as the dancers, as students cheered for their friends or for dances choreographed to their favorite songs, waving the glow sticks that were thrown into the crowd after one electronic number.

A fast-paced, sexy piece, choreographed by Kristana Erikson '06, to "My Love is Like Whoa" got the show going with a bang, grabbing the attention of the audience, and particularly the male attendees. The dancers did a great job of moving in sync, lending the piece a slick and polished look and giving the audience the impression that the moves they were doing were all second nature — that they were just up there having fun, despite the hours of rehearsal perfecting the dance must have taken.

It was followed by a complete change of pace, a delightful ballet piece, choreographed by Carolyn Gersh '04, to the familiar "Dance of the Reed Flutes" from the second act of Tchaikovsky's "Nutcracker." Although one of the dancers seemed to be a little bit nervous and uncomfortable on point, which sometimes caused her to move her arms in the opposite direction as the other dancers, the piece was overall very enjoyable and an engaging contrast to the first dance.

These four ballet dancers later proved their versatility by doing an exciting jazz piece to Madonna's "Die Another Day," choreographed by Devon Parish '05, during which they all seemed more relaxed than they had in the first number. At the end of the song, they tried a neat experiment, repeating the choreography from the Tchaikovsky piece to the Madonna song, which worked surprisingly well. It was a fun way of taking the ballet moves out of the stereotypical classical setting and jazzing them up to the energy level of pop music.

Guest performers On Tap were another highlight of the first half of the show with their up-beat dance to Jennifer Lopez's "Let's Get Loud," choreographed by Meghan Beucher '06. Theirs was perhaps one of the most technically impressive dances as all members of the group were almost equally proficient, dancing well together as an ensemble of performers.

The second act had a similarly varied group of pieces, including an imaginative performance choreographed by Keisuke Hosoi '07 and Yuichiro Mitsutomi '07 to "XTC," where the theatre was entirely black and all the audience could see were the swirling blue and white glow sticks that the dancers held in their hands. They created really interesting pictures, moving more and more quickly as the music became more frantic.

The dance choreographed by Elizabeth Hammett '05 to "El Tango de Roxanne" from Baz Lurhman's "Moulin Rouge" was an exciting and different piece — the only segment in the show that involved dancing with partners. The three couples all moved very gracefully together, making the dance beautiful to watch. It would have been one of the most popular pieces even if Ewan McGregor's solo halfway through the song had not made the night of many girls in the audience.

"This is For My People," the final dance choreographed by Kristana Erikson '06 and Jen Whelan '06, brought the show full-circle with a dance similar to "My Love is Like Whoa" in its style, energy and entertainment value.

All of the pieces in the performance were enjoyable because of the great energy and skill of the dancers and were made even more fun by the enthusiasm and excitement coming from the audience.

Vlad Lodoaba

Ryan Johnson '06 tears up the McCullough stage with his ground-breaking dance moves.

'Natural History' Composes Its Future

By Erika Mercer
Staff Writer

I caught him just as he was about to down a plate of scrambled eggs. But Max Tepper, vocalist and guitarist for the Brooklyn-based band, The Natural History, kindly informed me that the eggs could wait, and we launched into a conversation about the creation and inspiration of the band you'll hear play this Saturday at 9 p.m. in Forest Basement.

The Natural History dates back to 2001, when Max and drummer Derek Vockins recruited Max's brother, Julian Tepper, to complete the trio. "Derek and I started the band," Max explained. "We were looking for a bass player. Julian was getting out of college real soon, and it just made sense for him to join the band."

Until then, Max and Derek had been playing math-rock together, but by 2001 they had decided to switch gears. Although Max admitted that math-rock was "aggressive and kick-ass to play," he concluded, "It wasn't really the kind of music that I listen to — whether that be punk rock or the Beatles. Math rock is pretty soulless music. We all got a lot of soul, and we want to put it out there." I asked him how it is working together with his brother, and he responded, "It's great — it's good. He's my brother. I wouldn't want it any other way." He paused then punctuated his thought, "Yeah."

So Julian joined the band, and in July 2002, The Natural History released its debut album, a self-titled five-song EP, followed in May 2003 by a full-length album, "Beat Beat Heartbeat." I asked Max how he writes his songs, and he replied, "I write a lot of them either at home or in the practice space we have … I sit down and write. It's often not a spontaneous thing. Sometimes stuff will come out of jams or whatnot. I'll take it home and work on it if we're stuck in some place." He explained that often the songs he writes at home are only "rough sketches" that will "end up getting dramatically changed by the time we're done. A lot of times I'll come in with a song, and as the song is taking shape it becomes apparent what's working and what's not."

The creation of these rough sketches is what Max cited as his favorite part of being in a band, though touring is a "close second." He explained, "Writing the songs in your room is difficult and time-consuming, but it's also the most enjoyable part. The rest is difficult. It's easy to do research for a paper, but when you sit down to write it it's a different story." He admitted, though, that "the more you do it the more comfortable you feel and the more loose you get."

Max described the next step in the process — turning the rough sketches into complete, polished songs — as the most challenging. "It all as to fit in like a puzzle piece," said. "Writing great songs for me and then putting them together and making them great as a band" is difficult but ultimately rewarding, as the final result is worth the toil and trouble. "Making records is obviously first and foremost," he explained.

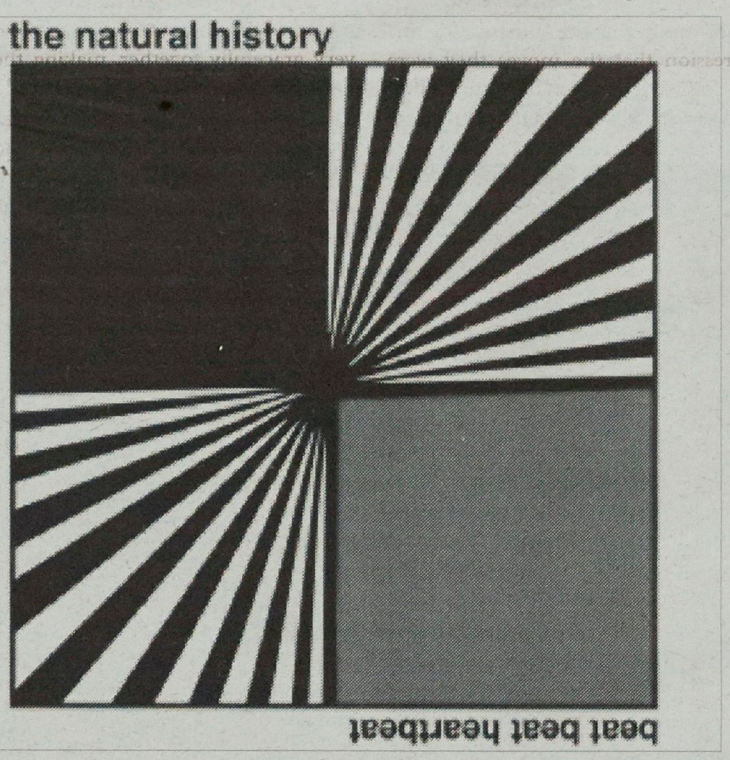
"Beat Beat Heartbeat" testifies to the band's hard work. When asked to classify the album, Max settled on "dark pop music," a more mysterious and fitting label than "post-punk," which critics have used to describe its sound. Prominent bass lines, a powerful drumbeat, slightly discordant guitar work and Max's crooning voice characterize "Beat Beat Heartbeat," whose influences, which Max listed as The Beatles, Elvis Costello, XTC, Wire, The Kinks, REM and soul music, are readily apparent.

Critics have often included The Natural History in the new wave of New York music, which boasts artists such as The Strokes, Interpol, The Walkmen and The Yeah Yeah Yeahs. How does Max feel about this? "Julian and I are born and raised in the city. We consider ourselves a New York band. It's sort of an unconscious thing — there's a certain pace to the city. And if I lived somewhere else I'd probably be writing the same music. But we're a band that plays in New York City. It's an old story."

He listed The Knitting Factory in Lower Manhattan and Maxwell's in Hoboken, N.J., among his favorite clubs to play. When asked about playing at college campuses, Max stated that, while he enjoyed the college crowd, the turnout was often unpredictable. Sometimes, he explained, college shows are "poorly promoted, not so many people coming out," but other times, the shows are "filled with tons of kids who don't even know who you are but who are just coming out to hear music."

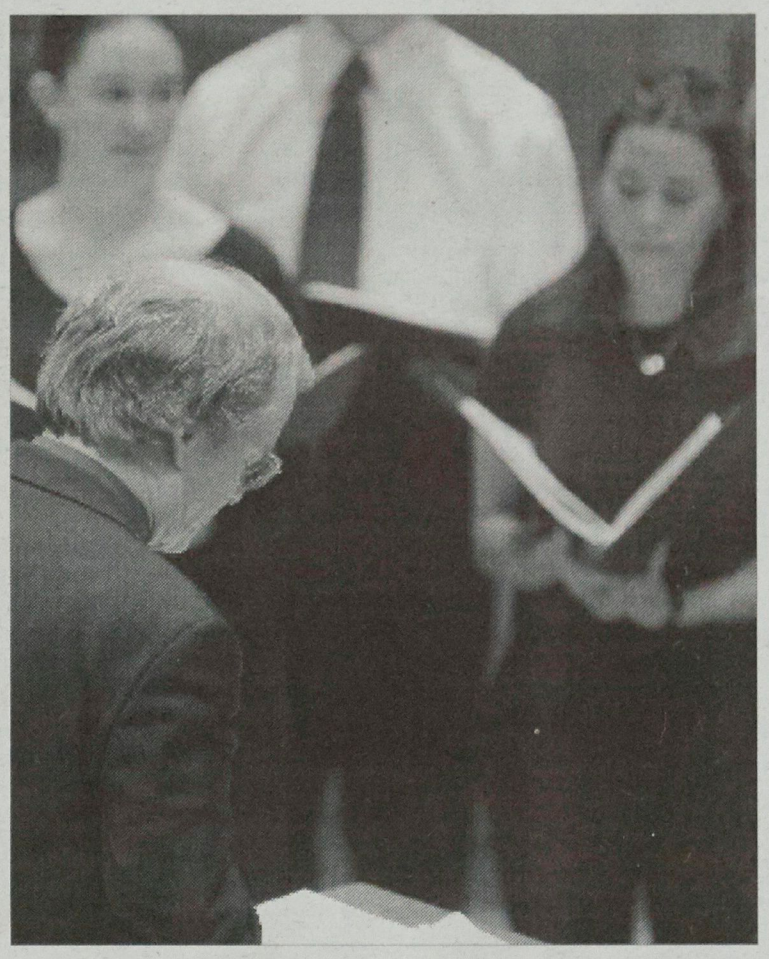
Its show this coming weekend at Middlebury marks one of the few shows between now and the end of the year that The Natural History has planned. After that, the band will embark on the writing and recording of its second album, tentatively planned for release in the fall of 2004. "We're writing right now. We're going to go away in January and February to fine tune the record. We'll be recording again relatively soon." Is its sound changing at all? "A little less outright swingy. I'll be able to say better when I have the next record in my hand."

Meanwhile, don't miss seeing The Natural History perform songs from "Beat Beat Heartbeat" this Saturday in Forest Basement, following an opening performance by Penelope.



Courtesy

The Natural History will play Forest Basement on Saturday night. Penelope will play an opening set.



Vlad Lodoaba

Jeff Rehbach conducts the Middlebury Chamber Singers.

Middlebury Chamber Singers Sing of the Moon

By Zoey Burrows
Staff Writer

The Middlebury College Chamber Singers recently performed their fall concert, a sophisticated and poignant presentation of some of the College's most talented student voices. The concert incorporated a refreshing array of composers, languages and subject matter. The group sang about life's many wonders, from the hardships of winter in French to the love of a song-bird in Italian. Director Jeff Rehbach pointed out that one of the last songs on the program quite appropriately made mention of the moon as the weekend's lunar eclipse progressed outside.

The 23-person group walked onto the CFA stage promptly at 8 p.m. on Saturday night. Eclectically dressed in white, blue and red blouses (and pink hair of one female member), the singers commenced with two songs from the English anthem tradition. Next they sang three renditions of Ave Maria in Latin and English, the first written in 1497 and the second in 1928. The last of the three renditions, composed by Morten Lauridsen in 1997, was rich in dynamic change, with foreboding harmonies reminiscent of the beautiful Civil War film "Dances with Wolves."

Sophomore Alyssa Jumars said that the Ave Maria set was by far her favorite of the program. Community Chorus member Marcy Smith, particularly liked the second Ave Maria song for its "soaring and flowing" tendencies.

Claude Debussy's "Trois Chansons de Charles d'Orleans," published in 1910, came next. The first two movements were decidedly more modern than the previous songs, distinguished by difficult, atonal harmonies. However, the group's pitch and quality of sound did not waver. Soloists Mary Montgomery '04, Jessica Isler '04, Daniel Koppel '04 and Scott Guenther '06 sang commendably throughout. Former group member Sarah Pieplow '04 especially enjoyed the group's performance of the Debussy piece and was impressed by "their sense of group and musicality."

For all but one song in the program, the singers stood in mixed arrangements, sopranos standing by tenors and basses by altos. Their varied positioning successfully achieved a unified and interesting sound, the singers expressing no apparent difficulty finding their respective notes.

The final two sets included a group of lute-songs and madrigals, and a more contemporary choral settings by Estonian composer Arvo Part and American Eric Whitacre. Whitacre's songs closed the program on a serious note. Though evidently influenced greatly by the Beatles, Whitacre must have composed "Water Night" and "Sleep" when in a dark place, for both songs are strikingly beautiful, though somber and slow. After the last note was uttered, the audience was left to contemplate the meaning of such solemn themes.

Montgomery especially enjoyed singing the Debussy piece and the Italian madrigals, for their levity and because "they are not church music and are well written for singers." Koppel especially enjoyed the last two Whitacre pieces. Both seniors said that they were pleased with the performance overall, especially considering that it occurred earlier in the semester than usual, leaving less time to prepare.

The Chamber Singers formed only five years ago under the direction of Professor John Milson. Current director Jeff Rehbach was named conductor in April 2000. Selection to the group is becoming increasingly competitive as Middlebury students realize the joy of singing classical music. This fall only three new members were admitted from the Class of 2007 — soprano Elizabeth Vazquez, bass Adam Fazio and tenor Jason Grout. Look for their next performance in the spring arts calendar and get yourself to wherever they are.

Nirvana via Classical Music: Julia Fischer's Take on Perfection

By Hans Manzke
Staff Writer

For truly great violinists, the instrument is an extension of the body. To achieve truly great results, the player must treat their instrument as tenderly as a lover, ever conscious of the violin's ability to instantaneously impart joy and sorrow.

At its best, music can take you somewhere you wish you could be. Regardless of whether that's in your past, present or future, each note has the intrinsic ability to pick you up from where you are and put you down somewhere else. As a form of expression it exists alone. It can be coercive, enchanting, exhilarating, brilliant, enlightening, simplifying, self-deprecating, sublime, cathartic. Good music is medicine, best taken anytime, anywhere.

Those who attended Sunday afternoon's performance in the CFA concert hall saw a violinist firmly ensconced in the hallowed halls of bonafide prodigy. Julia Fischer performed with the New York Philharmonic in 2003, with Chicago Symphony and Carnegie Hall debuts already under her belt. On Sunday, Fischer whisked her way on stage with an air of confidence and aware affability belying her 20 years of age. Selections from Prokofiev and Mozart were handled with the utmost care and respect, both performed with flawless technique and startling panache. Playing entirely from memory, Fischer displayed fine mobility and dazzling range. She is supremely comfortable with her instrument, allowing her sound to fill the hall.

While all of her pieces were exercises in virtuosity, the highlight of her performance was her rendition of Edvard Grieg's Sonata No. 3 in C minor, opus 45. Fischer seemed to pour every ounce of her being into her effort, her face alternating between contorted expressions of utmost concentration and utter serenity. Her staggering ability only added to Grieg's masterpiece, resulting in seven minutes of classical beauty.

As my eyes wandered over the crowd, I saw six grown men drying their eyes. It is truly a privilege to have a gift powerful enough to be able to do this. Here, I remembered my own days playing the violin. I remembered picking up a violin for the first time in fourth grade, and putting it down for the last time last year. Fischer helped me realize that this art form is a true gift, one that should never be set aside.

When combined with Robert Kulek's piano accompaniment, Fischer's interpretation of Grieg's piece showed her audience that this arrangement has every bit of the strength and power of a full orchestra. The two instruments juxtaposed each other effortlessly. By nature, the piano is stoic, monolithic at times. It takes the right hands to bring the instrument to life. On the other hand, one must fight to make the violin prosaic. It lives, has emotions, is temperamental, runs, tiptoes, falls, sings and flies, sometimes at the player's behest, other times seemingly of its own free will. A good violin breathes, and there is no doubt that Julia Fischer plays a good violin.

On loan from the Nippon Music Foundation, the 1716 Stradivarius "Booth," is breathtaking and humbling to hear. It was a true paragon of the violin world in the hands of a true prodigy.

For great violinists, the instrument is merely an extension of the body. To achieve great heights, the player must treat her instrument as tenderly as a lover, ever conscious of the violin's ability to instantaneously impart joy and sorrow. Julia Fischer has the innate sensibility of self-awareness and a true love of the music that not all performers are fortunate enough to possess.

While her abilities seem to have paved her path in solid gold, Fischer's aesthetic prowess and commitment to her art form will ensure her continued success.

Albert Bitici
The young Fischer draws the bow to her violin with precision and awe-inspiring grace.

'Trestle' Treads Line Between Tension and Turbulence

Zoo Play Probes Depression-Era Themes, Brings Seasoned Acting To Table

By: Sadie Hoagland
Staff Writer

The intensity did not crack for a single moment last weekend when "The Trestle at Pope Lick Creek" graced the Hepburn Zoo. Joya Scott '03.5 directed the turbulent scenes set in the depths of the American Depression, written by Naomi Wallace. The five actors in the production gave what must have been an exhausting performance as they ran and shouted through the Zoo, keeping the spectators on the edge of their seats.

Wallace's play deals with not only the economic effects of the Depression, but also the psychological displacement that was associated with the time. The play tells the story of two young teenagers, Pace and Dalton, whose lives seem predestined by the hopelessness of the Depression era. The story is not presented chronologically and shifts from scenes of Pace and Dalton together at the Trestle, daring each other to out run a train, to scenes of Dalton's home with his unemployed father and hardworking mother. Finally the audience is introduced to scenes of Dalton in prison for Pace's murder — a train accident he refuses to explain.

The play delves into the coming-of-age theme as the two teenagers discover their sexuality. It also depicts remarkably well the awkwardness of adolescence as well as the difficulties particular to the 1930s. Dalton's father Dray is left at home, hopeless in his job search, making hand shadows on the wall. The theme of shadows continues throughout the play and it becomes clear that the people of this era, struggling to maintain livelihood and without control of their lives, are also mere shadows. As the story progresses, Pace and Dalton become more involved in their tragic version of love in a world that seems to be crumbling down upon them. The play is highly moving, and this weekend's performance was no exception.

The character Pace Creagan, played by Becky Martin '04, is a fascinatingly masculine young woman whose energy filled the stage. Martin gave an exquisite performance, shouting at Dalton, swinging on the Trestle and creating a deeply disturbed character whose aggression became a front for insecurity. Martin worked with John Stokvis '05 (Dalton) to create an intriguing relationship of power and strange love. The two achieved an incredible dynamic — Stokvis gave his character very real emotion. Dalton must witness his parent's relationship suffer as his father's depression seeps into the household. Stokvis very realistically played the part of a boy struggling with this situation and also his coming manhood.

The three remaining performers, Dalton's parents and the jailkeeper, played by Dan Eichner '04, upheld the high standards set by Martin and Stokvis, each one displaying the same intensity and emphasizing the frustrations and difficulties of this time in American history.

The set and music worked to further enrapture the audience in the lives of Wallace's characters. The music had a striking blues feel to it, alluding to the "old railroad times." The set remained the same with three different locations on stage representing the Trestle, Dalton's home and the jail cell. Screens were set up and the hand shadows were cast ominously and artistically throughout the show, creating an eerie effect while also serving as an occasional source of comic relief as the characters tried to guess what animals were being imitated.

Courtesy
Becky Martin '04 and John Stokvis '05 gave stand-out performances in last week's Zoo production.

These moments of humor came as a catharsis to the otherwise heavy note of the play. The end of the play revealed the accidental nature of Pace's death, with Dalton as the only witness. Pace, the character perhaps most lacking in life, lived on in a ghost-like form, which returned to Dalton while he sat waiting to tell the truth in jail. The play involved the audience to a phenomenal extent, and left one with very memorable images. In one of the jail scenes, the jail keeper, played by Eichner, asked Dalton to guess what he was acting out, in the same vein as the hand shadows game. He then swung his arms low, jerking and snarling, looking rather nasty and not unlike Gollum from "Lord of the Rings." After Dalton failed to respond, he revealed the answer to be "your soul," which shocked the audience. This idea was disturbing and one of the many aspects of the piece that engendered an extremely tense crowd.

Scott succeeded on several levels in creating a production that was profound, moving and inherently artistic. The end floored audience members, who were unable to adequately summarize how they felt about the display of emotional turbulence and undeniable talent they had just witnessed.

Bittersweet Exit for Behind-The-Scenes Sports Queen

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 28

es, staff and students at the college. "Winnie is a mother figure to many of us," said golf and men's hockey coach Bill Beaney. "She has the innate ability to anticipate what needs to be done before you even ask."

Ryan's effect on the College was felt almost immediately upon her arrival. Transferring from the purchasing department in 1968, Ryan began work under the legendary Duke Nelson in an athletic department far different from the one we know today. There was no Kenyon Arena, no Fletcher Gymnasium, no Olympic-sized pool, no fitness center.

Only men's teams practiced down at the athletic center, and there were no national championships to pique the minds and stoke the ambitions of young student-athletes. Ryan quickly set about making herself indispensable to the then-small department, taking care of everything from travel, budgets and ticket sales for every team at the school well before the advent of word processing.

She even found time for a few other unexpected duties. "I used to hand draw all the plays in the football team's handbook," said Ryan. "We didn't have computers, so everything was done by hand. In my high school they didn't even play football, so I didn't even know what I was drawing."

As the seasons went by Ryan found many new things to deal with as the face of Middlebury sports changed. The women left McCullough and moved into the Athletic Center in the 70s. The athletic facilities were expanded and renovated again and again, and a slew of new teams began to arrive on the scene as athletics began to increase in importance on campus. Her favorite moment came in 1995, when the Middlebury men's hockey team won the first of its five consecutive national titles. "When men's hockey won its first national championship that was the highlight," said the long-time hockey fan. "It was really pretty exciting, it was just great to be a part of it." Ryan dealt with every new task that came her way as she continued to control the fates of every team at the college. No change was perhaps bigger than the rise of the computer.

"I had never used a computer in my life. I had no clue," laughed Ryan, recalling the shift. She detailed the wearying list of new programs and formats she's had to deal with since then. "It's just been a continuous learning thing. I finally got to the point in my life where I just said, 'Uh-uhh, I'm through.'"

Ryan eagerly awaits the opportunity to spend more time with her husband, five children and grandchildren once she retires. "If my grandchildren are doing something special I can be there," said Ryan, who has spent many a weekend over the last 37 years in the service of Middlebury athletics. Her presence here will be dearly missed, however. "She's a caring, very professional first class human being," said Beaney. "Her personal qualities exemplify for me what Middlebury College stands for." Beaney lamented the loss of her famous annual Christmas cookies, but added, "The thing I'll miss the most is her infectious smile, the comforting feeling her whole person exudes. There's only one Winnie, that's for sure."

> Winnie Ryan began work under the legendary Duke Nelson in an athletic department far different from the one we know today. There was no Kenyon Arena, no Fletcher Gym, no Olympic-sized pool, no fitness center.

"She's been a very good friend to everyone who's ever been involved in athletics here," said Reilly. "She has covered the mistakes of many of us — always doing it with a smile and always throwing in a little bit of dry Vermont humor."

Even Ryan herself was a little surprised to see the outpouring from the community when she announced her plans to retire. "Even people around town," she said. "It's amazing, you don't realize people recognize you as 'the person' of Middlebury athletics." Though Ryan has been, for many, "the Voice" of Middlebury, she remains circumspect about her 37-year legacy.

"I try to keep people on their toes," she said. "I enjoy the challenge. It's nice to know you can be helpful, I just enjoy doing that.

"I'm definitely going to miss all the people I work with. Working and raising my children here, they always are there to help, and it's just such a family feeling — a lot of really special people. I really feel blessed."

Looking to Next Year, Volleyball is Optimistic

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 28

as well as the versatile Sydney Hartsock '05. Defensive stalwart Jamie Wong '06 will be returning to power the defense along with Laurie Wollin '05 and phenomenal freshman Lacee Patterson '06.5 should be even better next year. And even though the team struggled somewhat this year, they still managed five conference victories and finished the season a respectable 12-13.

"We had a great season. Although there was kind of an adjustment period at the start because of all the new players, I feel like we were able to make some of the necessary adjustments and learn to really work with each other," said the departing Boniello. "I feel like our defense was an area we really needed to improve upon, but that we really picked it up the second half of the season. I think we should have a really great team next year"

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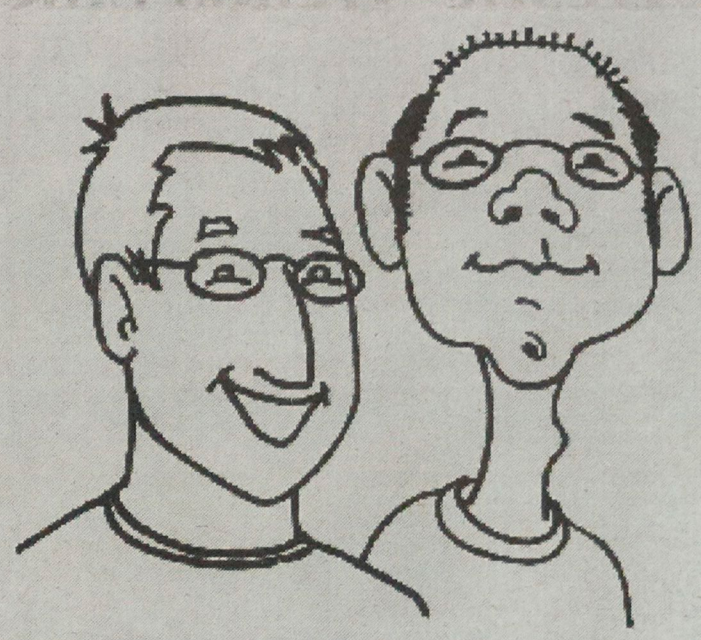

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File Photo/Vlad Lodoaba

Streamlined Dan Pelliccia '07 and the men's cross country team finished strong this weekend. The women hope to win the National Championship.

Runners Gun for National Crown

By Tom McCann
Sports Editor

Last Saturday the men's and women's cross-country teams took their season on the road to Grafton, Mass., for the East Coast Athletic Conference (ECAC) Championship. The women, coming off a phenomenal performance two weekends ago to claim the NESCAC Championship, put in an equally gutsy performance this weekend. The men also placed an extremely credible sixth in Maine to improve on their NESCAC performance by two places. Although the championship eluded the women, they pushed Williams all the way to the proverbial finish line and lost out by the slimmest of margins when everything was said and done.

Both teams traveled down to Maine this weekend in good spirits having performed well the weekend before, and were both looking forward to the NCAA Regional Championships coming up this weekend. The 6k run in Grafton had no bearing on next weekend, but both teams ran themselves into the ground, and can be well pleased with the outcome of the day's work. In a race that included 240 runners, star performers for the women included Margery Glover '04 who placed third, with a time of 23:21.05. Sophomore Kelsey Rinehart also placed in the top ten, coming over the line in 8th place in a time of 23:42.91, less than two seconds behind Stephanie Gibson of Keene State University. Nora Segar '06, Claire Schultz '06 and Makely Lyon '06 all finished in the top 20, helping to contribute to a team average of 23:53.33 for the seven Middlebury runners. This gave the Panthers a team score of 60, five off the pace set by Williams, and a whole 16 points ahead of Keene State in third.

In the men's competition, Neal Dignum '07 came home first for Middlebury in a time of 27:51.88, with just five seconds separating him from six runners ahead. Jakob Benes '04 was next over the line for Middlebury in a time of 28:07.69 in 18th place, while Nat Silverson '04 was next, in 39th, in a time of 28:23.68. The eight Middlebury runners combined for an average time of 28:19.20 and score of 184 that put them in sixth place at the end of the day. While not really threatening Coast Guard in fifth, who scored 178 points, the Panthers were a full 23 points ahead of Oneonta in seventh. Perhaps the most positive aspect of the competition for both the men and women is that they seem well primed in time for the NESCAC Regional Championship this coming weekend in Portland, ME.

The women could hardly be running better and must fancy themselves to make a real charge at the competition while optimism is also running through the men's camp for another strong performance.

The season is winding to a close now, and so every race assumes an added importance. The seniors are about to conclude their Middlebury sports careers while the baton of responsibility is being passed down to the younger runners as we speak. It's an exciting time for everyone involved in the cross-country program, and with a little luck and a lot of heart, the season will come to the sort of close that it deserves to.

Still Perfect, Field Hockey Heads On

Continued from page 28

Championship Game on Sunday.

Williams would be the opponent for Middlebury after defeating Bowdoin 5-4 on Saturday, and the game was everything it was expected to be. After a very even opening to the game, the Panthers snatched the lead with 10 minutes to go in the first half after a perfectly executed penalty corner right off the practice field. Lyddane found Lauryn Nicasio '05, who stopped the ball for Lamb to launch goal bound. The ball was through the goalkeeper before she knew what had happened and Middlebury had scored the all-important opening goal. In a game as tense and nerve-wracking as a final, the first goal is always essential and Middlebury had done what it needed to do. There were no more goals in the first half as both teams headed to the break knowing that they were 35 minutes away from a NESCAC Championship or from the end of their season. Simply put, the game was on the line.

As expected, half time seemed to inspire the Ephs and the second half was a different story. Williams threw everything except the kitchen sink and Middlebury, yet the defense stood strong, as it has done all year. As Allison Smith '06 noted, "the Panthers' opportunities to attack were mostly limited to fast breaks because of the pressure applied by Willliams." In truth, the Ephs dominated the second half, but Middlebury refused to yield to the pressure. The Middlebury stand was tested during four consecutive penalty corners for the visitors with one resulting in an incredible double block by Missy Krempa '04 that further inspired the Panther resistance. Then with four minutes to go, a Williams attacker finally hit a shot that was good enough to beat Meghan McGillen '07 in the Middlebury net, yet cannoned off the stick of Brakeley who was somehow able to instinctively deflect it away from the goal and out of danger. The Panthers were able to run down the clock in the remaining minutes and could finally celebrate their hard-earned NESCAC Championship on their own field.

A phenomenal defensive performance by Middlebury gained recognition in the aftermath of the weekend when goalkeeper McGillen was crowned the womensfieldhockey.com Rookie of the Week. She also maintains the best goals against ratio of any goaltender in the country. Much of the credit for that ratio must also be given to the defense for their part in nullifying the offense that the opponent brings. Offering further proof the defensive strength of the team is the fact that Brakeley has been named NESCAC Player of the Week, in a rare award for a defensive player. Although this should not come as much of a surprise as the team have now gone 326 minutes without a goal against. The Panthers will now put that run on the line, along with their perfect season record of 16-0 into the NCAA Regional Championship this coming weekend.

Having won the NESCAC Championship, the Panthers are now setting their sights on the national championship. As the top ranked field hockey team in the country, Middlebury have maintained home field advantage, and have the top seed in the draw. The Panthers will take on either Montclaire State University or New England College on Saturday at 10 a.m. and then hopefully compete for the right to play in the Final Four on Sunday.

The women are 16-0 to this point, are NESCAC Champions, and are four wins away from the holy grail of women's field hockey: A national championship with a 20-0 record.

Field Hockey

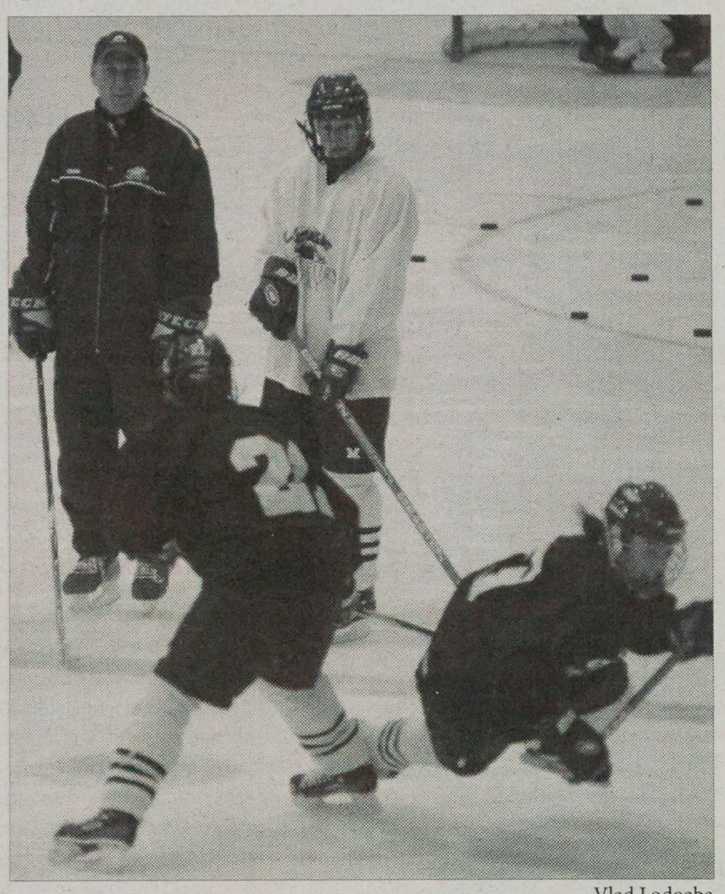
Saturday, November 8

Middlebury	3
Amherst	0

Sunday, November 9

Middlebury	1
Williams	0

Crash Course



Vlad Lodoaba

Finding their footing in practice, *the women's hockey team prepares for their season to get underway next week.*

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Rugby Teams Suffer Painful Twin Defeats at Regionals

File Photo/Vlad Lodoaba

The men's loss to Coast Guard crushes their hopes of a National Championship this spring.

Shock One Point Loss to Coast Guard Brings Men's Season Crashing Down

By Jack Donaldson
Staff Writer

The long road to glory came to a premature end for the Middlebury Rugby team this past weekend, their bid for a national championship ending a few months early in a loss to old foes the U.S. Coast Guard in the Regional finals. The Coast Guard, a big and powerful team that Middlebury managed to control at home few weeks ago in the Northeast Territorials, pulled out with a 10-9 victory in the closing minutes on Sunday, in a game that was extremely competitive throughout.

Men's Rugby
Saturday, November 8

Middlebury	9
Coast Guard	10

The Regional championships, which were held at UMass-Amherst, were supposed to be merely a warm-up for the spring's national tourney, and perhaps that was a problem for the Panthers. A feeling of invincibility and power that had been pervading campus in the past week, emanating from several of the Middlebury teams still in competition this fall, might have affected the competitive drives of some of the players. However, Chris Straub '07 insists that this was not the case. "We played gutsy ball all weekend, we certainly took nothing for granted," he said.

Indeed, the team looked to be up to its old dominating ways in a win over Colby on Saturday, punishing the Waterville boys 18-5 with remarkable play coming from Ngetha Waithaka '04 and the dazzling Pascal Losambe '07, a back liner whose combination of strength and quickness is reminiscent of NFL back Ricky Williams, and whose poise proved promising for upcoming seasons. On the heels of its victory the team was eager for Sunday's battle.

However, the sun did not shine on Sunday, literally and figuratively. It was cold and rainy, a combination that played up to brutish Coast Guard's style of play, but not to the graceful finesse ball Middlebury has used to control tempo and the clock this season. Middlebury, at heart, needs to control the ball for the majority of a game, getting into the opponents side of the field and keeping the ball there, which they were able to do at their last meeting with the Coast Guard. They were stopped this weekend though.

"They are a tough team," said Straub. "We knew that from last time. We took one from them and they got us once. It's a good rivalry." In Sunday's game, the Panthers had few standouts, but solid play was exhibited by all members of the squad, both starters and reserves.

So while Middlebury's most dominant club team puts its dynasty dreams on ice until next October, perhaps the true story gleaned from this season — a season full of extraordinary performances and justly high expectations from the team and from fans — is the attention given to one of the sport's most exciting rivalries: Middlebury—Coast Guard. Hopefully these two teams will provide some more wonderful games in the near future, but for Middlebury, at least, those games will have to wait until next year.

Women's Silver Lining Lies in Best Finish Ever

By Sally Hartman
Staff Writer

The future of the women's rugby team looks bright — very bright. Although last Sunday marked the end of the squad's official season, the unity and growth that occurred throughout the course of the fall will continue under the guardianship of underclassmen who demonstrated potential in light of unfavorable conditions. UMass-Amherst played host to teams from across New England this weekend at the Regional Tournament, where biting wind, freezing rain and muddy fields dominated the scene. However, Old Man Winter was unable to dash the hopes of the Middlebury Panthers as they had just come off a thrilling and well-earned overtime victory over Worchester Polytechnic. In order to qualify for the Regionals, teams throughout the area first faced off in the New England Championships. Rising to the top amongst schools such as Castleton, Green Mountain and Keene State, the Panthers were able to advance to the next phase of what will end in the National Womens' Rugby Championships.

The first game of the weekend pitted the Panthers against an extremely well-coached Fordham University. Early in the game, Kate Nerenberg '05 was able to put the Panthers on the board with three points on a penalty kick through the uprights from 17 meters away. However, Fordham was able to rally in the waning minutes of the first half to score the first try of the game, giving them a two point lead over Nerenberg and her teammates. Later in the second half of the competition, Fordham was able to score twice more, securing a lead at 15-3. However, as Nerenberg pointed out, "The wind was a big factor. They [Fordham] had it the second half and capitalized on it." Fullback Johanna Riesel '05 commented on the shift in energy that allowed Fordham to slip by the Panthers by saying, "Middlebury dominated the first half, but Fordham was able to get their momentum going after that. We played well and fought hard, but we just couldn't get our momentum back."

After Saturday's defeat, Middlebury was slated against Rockport the following day in the tournament's consolation game. Without the pressure of previous matches, the women were able to relax, have fun and produce a heartfelt effort against their competition to cap off an extremely successful season. Led by Riesel, who racked up two tries, and her teammate Katie Hoeschler '04 who scored once, the Panthers again dominated the first half. However, the second half belonged to Rockport as they emerged from half-time psyched up and ready for revenge. Because it was the last game of the season as well as a consolation match, the team's tactics were slightly different than usual. "We were playing our younger players so they could get experience for upcoming seasons," Nerenberg said. "A lot of people are going abroad so there are going to be vacancies on the field, and this was a perfect time to give the girls some extra playing time." Riesel also emphasized the nature and significance of the game in saying, "It was more fun than anything else and a great way to end the season. The younger girls did a phenomenal job."

Riesel's remarks not only characterize the performance of the underclassmen on the squad, but they also reflect on the season as a whole. This year was the first time the Panthers won the New England Championships, and thus the furthest they have advanced in post-season play in the history of the club.

Even more importantly, with the New England victory the team qualified to play in Division II rugby next year, where they will face off against a whole new caliber of opponents with experienced, well-coached squads. Such competition can only serve to sharpen the Panthers' skills and heighten their drive as they continue to improve their young program. The team has long languished in the shawdow of the men's club, but can now set its own standard.

With upperclass leadership and underclass potential such as that exhibited this weekend, the Middlebury women's rugby club will certainly remain a force to be reckoned with.

Streaking Bowdoin Team Robs Soccer of Golden Opportunity

Continued from page 28

Saunders '04 in his chest and right shoulder at the top of Middlebury's 18. The referee signaled for a penalty kick despite the fact that Saunders' arm never moved towards the ball and that he may have been outside the penalty area. Bowdoin capitalized on the opportunity and tied the game on the 12 yard shot.

With the score knotted at 1-1 the Panthers initially lost a bit of their momentum, but after halftime the team regained its composure and intensity and made a memorable effort. Led by the play of midfielders Andrew Stewart '04, Derek Cece '06 and Saunders, Middlebury gave the Polar Bears keeper all he could handle.

Cece's play on the outside eclipsed the efforts of any player on the field. Playing in his hometown, Cece burned defender after defender and sent incredibly dangerous balls into Bowdoin's six-yard box time and time again. The Polar Bears rotated three defenders on Cece, but none could keep him in check during his second-half flurry. Cece, alongside the efforts of forward Kellan Florio '05, helped the Panthers create the chances they needed to win the game, but the finishing touch was not there on the day.

The Panthers' championship aspirations collapsed in overtime off an anti-climactic goal in which a long floating ball over the top of the Middlebury defense put a Bowdoin forward on a break-away where he deftly pushed the ball past Craig Hirsch '05 for the victory.

"We really came together down the stretch," Cece said. "We didn't take any of our final games or practices for granted, we just didn't have the element of luck on our sides, which any team [trying] to win needs." Cece and the rest of the team's goals may not have been completely achieved, but the season was anything but a failure. "It was a disappointing end," Sales remarked, "but I think we had a great run this season and if you look back at the numbers, a great season."

Middlebury's 11-3-2 record was the best overall record the team has had in three years. Saward earned his 200th victory in the team's quarterfinal win over Tufts University, putting his winning percentage at nearly 75 percent, a school record. The team shut out every non-conference opponent and allowed only nine goals in sixteen games. Hirsch recorded six shutouts on the year.

The major loss for this team goes beyond the defeat this past weekend in Williamstown. Middlebury loses eight seniors off this resilient squad, four of whom were starters.

"This class has been outstanding," Saward said. "We lose a number of players who have left an indelible mark on the program and me."

Matt Scheufele '04, Aaron Barasch '04, Andrew Helming '04 and Andy Peters '04 displayed a work ethic and loyalty that will be sorely missed. Peters' determination to overcome his severe back troubles was a prime example of this group's legacy.

Jake Armstrong '04 and Andrew Stewart '04 made powerful contributions to the team on and off the field over their years in Panther uniforms. Stewart improved steadily over his career and tied Middlebury's second place record for assists in a season with eight.

As irreplaceable as some of these athletes are, co-captains Griffiths and Saunders may be two of the hardest players for Middlebury to lose. Saward described Saunders' training habits as "second to none. His work ethic and commitment to the team is nothing short of heroic."

Griffiths clearly made a lasting impression on the program, the team, and his head coach. "Jason Griffiths has proved to be everything that his high school coach had promised," Saward said. "A quality player who is passionate about the game, is driven to do everything that is humanly possible to win, but in the same breath, can shake an opponent's hand, win or loose and move forward. His leadership on the field was clear to all who watched us play, and his legacy will live on for years to come."

Cece echoed his coach's statements, saying, "The seniors we lose this year are going to be impossible to replace. The leadership, passion and camaraderie these seniors brought will be greatly missed."

Yet the team knows and believes that they will only build on the foundation this group laid down for them. "They made it clear just what Middlebury soccer was and what it meant to put on that jersey every day," Sales said. "We will miss that leadership initially, but I think there are plenty of guys that will step up to the challenge [next season]."

Next year may be a bit of challenge, but no group is better prepared to face that challenge than the remaining athletes. They got to learn from the best Middlebury has had to offer in a long time, the Class of 2004.

Women's Basketball

Record Last Season: 12-13

Coach: Noreen Pecsok

Players to Watch: Kate Shillo '04, Elyse Carlson '04, Alexis Hollinger '04

Dates for the Calender: Dec. 2 vs Castleton State; Jan. 17 vs Williams; Jan. 31 vs Bowdoin.

What can we expect? The Middlebury women's basketball team has long been one of the major sporting success stories for Middlebury College, and after an off-year last time around, the Panthers will look to put things straight this year. Only three seniors graduated from the team that took the court for Middlebury last year which leaves a core of experienced ballers for the Panthers. The season last year came to a shuddering halt in the NESCAC tournament when Wesleyan beat Middlebury 53-71. The women ended the season with a losing record and is something that the Panthers are committed to changing. The team this year is a little smaller and quicker — it is an entirely different unit to the one that ended last season. On Nov. 22, the season will begin for the women when they travel down to New York for the Baruch Tournament. After a trip to St. Joseph's on Nov. 22, Middlebury will host its first game of the season when Castleton State roll into town on Dec. 2. With the combination of youth and experience, the Panthers are hopeful for a successful season that will carry them deep into the post-season.

Men's Hockey

Record Last Season: 22-5-2

Coach: Bill Beaney

Players to watch: Kevin Cooper '04, Tim Schneider '06, Adam Foote '04, John Dawson '04, Patrick Nugent '05

Dates for the Calendar: Dec. 5 vs. Salem State, Jan. 2 vs. Trinity, Feb. 6 vs. Amherst

What can we expect? Of all the sports in which Middlebury partcipates, men's hockey may be the one that gets the most publicity. It draws members of the college community and from the town of Middlebury together under the roof of Kenyon Arena in the dead of winter and gives them something to get excited about. Last season ended bitterly as the Middlebury men's hockey team lost the NESCAC Championship for the first time, falling to Trinity in the final 4-2. The season came to an end at the hands of Oswego in the Final Four of the NCAA tournament. This year, the team is back to reclaim the NESCAC Crown and launch another bid at national glory. The season begins for the Panthers on Nov. 22 when Middlebury heads to Skidmore. The men will then take part in the Holiday Classic tournament here in Middlebury over Thanksgiving against Potsdam, Plattsburgh and Norwich. Buoyed by the offense provided by Kevin Cooper '04 and Tim Schneider '06 and supplemented by the goaltending of Yen-Yi Chen '06, the Panthers are hopeful for another successful season on the ice.

Indoor Track and Field

Last Season Record: Last season the men's team placed 18th in the New England Open while the women came home 12th in the Division III New England Championships.

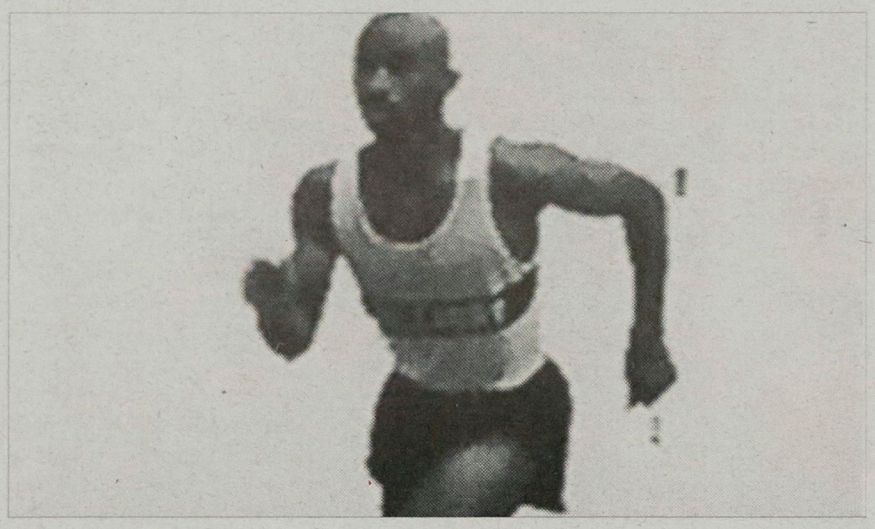
Coaches: Martin Beatty (Track Coach), Nicole Wilkerson (Distance Coach), Patty Ross-Tran (Distance Coach), Luke Hotte (Throwing Coach), Dave Kerin (Jumping Coach)

Captains: Mike DeLeo '04, Tony Garofano '04, Margery Glover '04, Jessica Kosciewicz '04, Maryanne Porter '04

Runners to Watch: Jessica Kosciewicz '04, Maryanne Porter '04, Kevin Bright '06

Mark Your Calendar: Jan. 11 @ Dartmouth Relays, Jan. 24 @McGill Team Challenge, Feb. 20 Division III New England Championships

What can we expect? The team is looking forward to competing against runners that they will not meet during the spring season. The spring season consists mainly of NESCAC Competitions, whereas the athletes will now focus on non-conference opponents. Their major goal is to have as many athletes qualify as possible for the NCAA Division III Championships. Each athlete will have an opportunity at five meets to qualify and Middlebury hopes for a significant number to make the cut, especially with such a talented first-year class.



Swimming and Diving

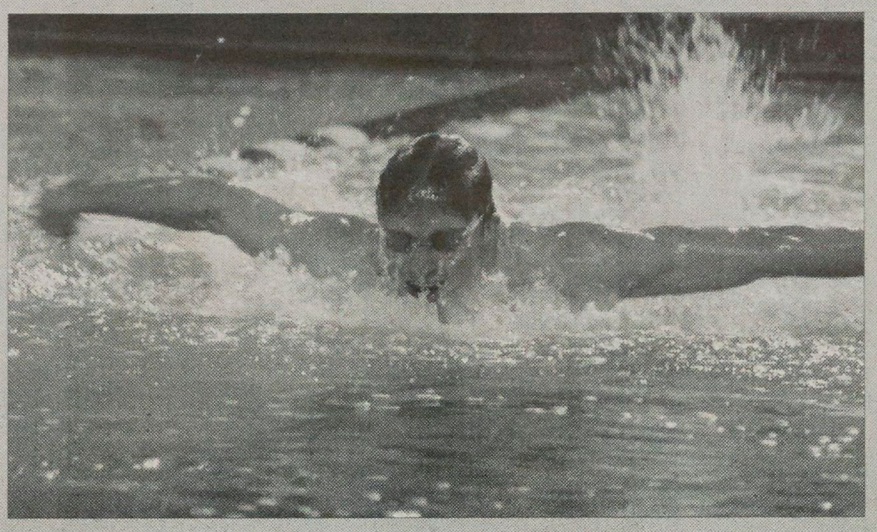
Last Season NESCAC: Men 4th; Women 2nd

Coach: Peter Solomon

Captains: Charlie Evans '04, Matt Clark '04, Kellianne Egan '04, Kate Merritt '04

Big Match: Dec. 6 vs. Amherst

What can we expect? The swimming and diving teams once again join in their never-ending struggle to upend Williams. The Massachusetts monolith once again stands in the way of the Panthers in their quest for NESCAC glory. Last year the women swam to a second place finish while the men slid to a somewhat disappointing fourth. This year's group, however, may have the best shot in years of upending the Ephs. Neither the men's nor women's team suffered badly from graduated seniors, and the losses they did sustain look to be well offset by strong first-year classes. Look for immediate contributions from Barbara Van der Veer '07 for the women and Tim Lux '07 and Rob Collier '07 for the men. Looking at the diving side of the team, new addition Michael Young '07 should shore up the men's team along side a veteran women's crew. Middlebury swimming seems to be on a strong upswing, with each year's new crop of swimmers seemingly faster and deeper than the one preceding it. This year's men's team may even be deeper than the one that toppled the Williams dynasty two years ago, and senior Cragin Brown called the women's team "the fastest it's ever been."



Nordic & Alpine Skiing

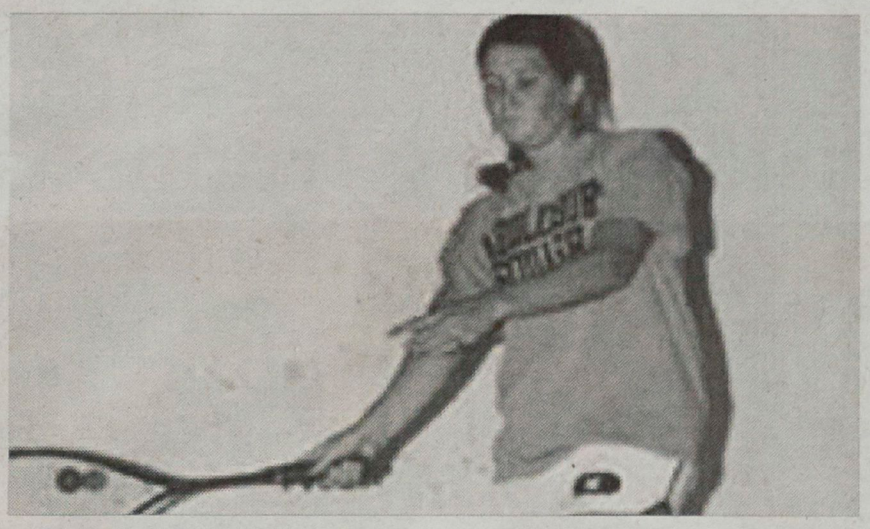
Coaches: Terry Aldrich; Forest Carey

Captains: Kate Newick '04, Colin Rogers '04, Nordic; Andy Peters '04, Laura Scripture '04, Alpine

Big Match: Middlebury Carnival, Feb. 27-28

What can we expect? As they wait patiently for snow, the Middlebury ski teams are looking to finally break through. Both squads are perennial top-three powerhouses along with UVM and Dartmouth, but neither group in recent years has been able to lay claim to the top spot this side of the Rockies. Especially painful has been the Panthers' inability to capture the podium in their home carnival at the Snow Bowl — the race that year after year proves to be the most important capstone of every Northeastern team's season. This year the Panthers will attempt to take advantage of their new-found depth to change all that. The Nordic teams look especially strong, having graduated only one senior between them, All American Tim Weston '02. The addition of first-years Jenny Hamilton, Beau Baldock, Dan Skold and Bryce Connery should help out Colin Rogers '04, Kate Newick '04 and the rest of the cross-country team in its attempt to overthrow the Dartmouth autocracy atop the rankings. The Alpine team is also looking strong,with a host of new faces bringing fresh energy to an already dangerous squad that posted a strong eighth place in nationals last year. Heading the list of newcomers are Scott Coriell '07 and Andrew Everett '07 for the men along with a whole host of first-year women such as Sally Swallow, Lindsey Brush and Amy Witherspoon.

Women's Squash



Last Year's Record: 11-6

Coach: David Saward

New Additions: Hannah Baker '07, Katherine Hawkins '06.5, Kate Horvitz '06.5, Kara Zarchin '06.5, Schuyler Winstead '06

What can we expect? After an overall successful 2002-2003 campaign, the women's squash team hopes to replace five players from the Class of 2003 with a trio of sophomore Febs, Schuyler Winstead '06 and first-year phenom Hannah Baker.

The Panthers managed an 11-6 finish in 2002-2003, but were caught somewhat off guard by the intense competition they faced at the annual Howe Cup at Yale. In the postseason tournament, Middlebury was shutout 9-0 by both Cornell and Bowdoin, before suffering a 7-2 loss to Vassar. While the Panthers' schedule is not yet set for the upcoming season, they are aware that they will begin their new campaign on December 5.

"While we will certainly miss the strong group of seniors that graduated last year, we're poised for success this season," reflected second-year Alexandra Polemis. " It's always great to see new players come out of the woodwork, and Hannah [Baker] should only fuel our ferocity with her New York City grit." Hopefully, the Panthers' solid core of returning players — anchored by junior Holly Haertel — will mesh with the newcomers to produce strong performances over the course of the season and into the Howe Cup.

Men's Basketball

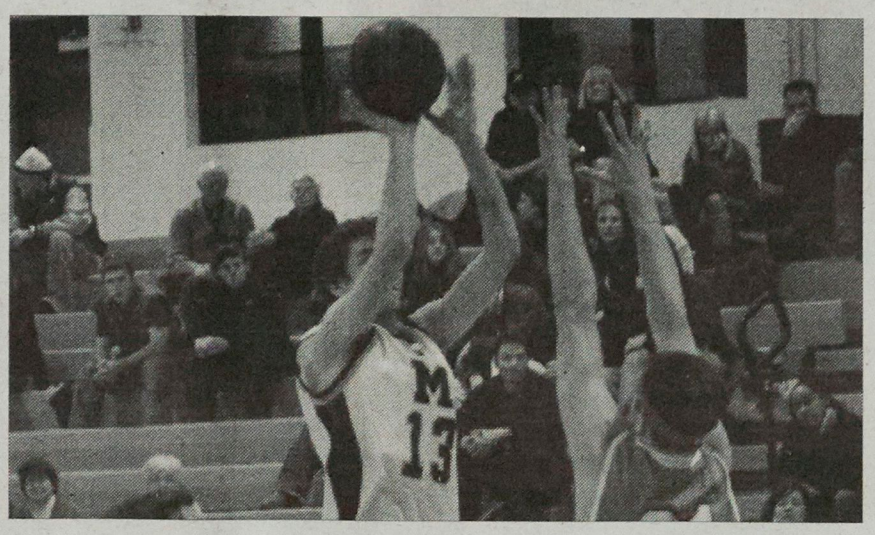
Last year's Record: 15-10, lost in first round of NESCAC tournament.

Coach: Jeff Brown

Dates for the calender: Jan. 17 at Williams; Jan. 23 vs. Amherst

Players to Watch: Nate Anderson, Dave Coratti, Mike Salek.

What can we expect? While NESCAC powerhouses Amherst, Williams and Trinity should present particularly tough tests for Middlebury, the Panthers have only 10 league games on the schedule and need to bring their best to each of these pivotal contests. Additionally, Middlebury will need to fill the void left by the graduated Eric Bundonis '03, who was the team's second highest scorer with 15.9 ppg. Offense was the Panthers' strong suit last season. The team combined for 85.9 ppg in 2002-2003 to become the highest-scoring team in college history. The Panther's should be able to put the ball in the hole again this year, but their NESCAC success will rely on the team's ability to play the other end of the floor. If Middlebury can keep its opponents to low field goal percentages, the Panthers' offensive firepower should carry them to one of their strongest seasons in recent memory. Joining the roster this season are first-years Chris Dowd, Wilbur Hyatt and Robert Marcoux."I think everyone is looking forward to the season," commented sharpshooter Mike Salek '05, who averaged 9.8 ppg last season. "This is the year where all the talent should coalesce into a cohesive unit. Most of us have been playing together now for three years, and this is it, we better put up or shut up."



Women's Hockey

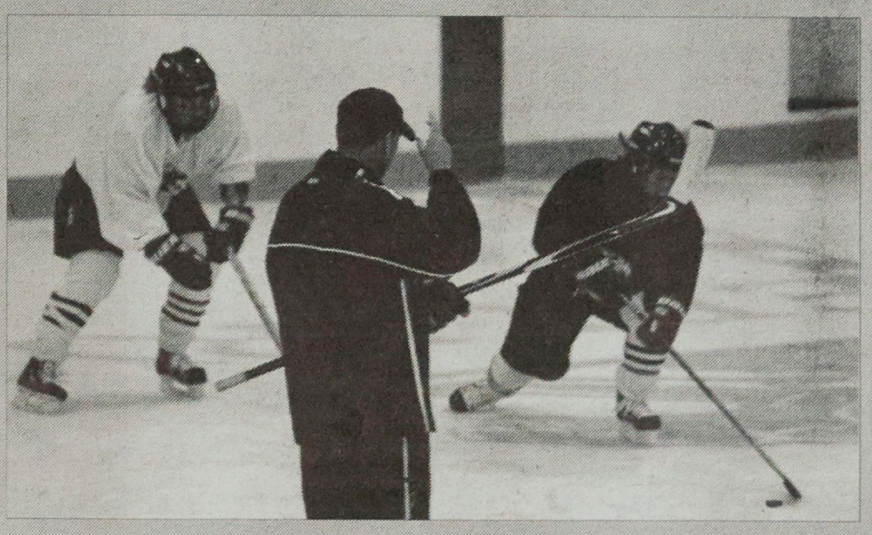
Last Season's Record: 19-3-4

New Players: Shannon Sylvester '07, Emily McNamara '07, Samantha Ritt '07, Abigail Kurtz-Phelan '07, Alison Graddock '07, Ellen Sargent '07, Shannon Tarrant '07

Coach: Bill Mandigo

Key Dates: Nov. 21 vs. Bowdoin; Jan.27 at Williams

What can we expect? The Middlebury women's ice hockey team comes off a very successful 2002-2003 season that saw them beat Bowdoin to win the NESCAC tournament, only to fall to the same Polar Bear team in the opening round of the NCAA tournament the following weekend. This year, the women will get their season started on Nov. 21 with Middlebury hosting none other than Bowdoin. It is a game that should motivate the many returning players and hopefully inspire them to victory. The Panthers will have to replace much of the scoring power that is gone with the departed Angela Kapus '03, last season's NESCAC player of the year. Middlebury hopes to draw from the addition of seven new first-years to the team. "I think that we have to prove a lot against Bowdoin on November 21," said goalie Kate Kogut '06. "They beat us in the first round in the NCAA tournament last season a week after we beat them for the NESCAC championship, and as the first game on the schedule, it will set the tone for our season. We have a lot of potential, and if we buckle down and work hard, we should do very well."



MEN'S SPORTS THIS WEEK

Cross Country at NCAA Rgls. Nov. 15

Winter Sports Begin Nov. 21

The Campus Sports

WOMEN'S SPORTS THIS WEEK

Cross Country @ NCAA Rgls. Nov. 15

Field Hockey @ NCAA Rgls. Nov. 15

Winter Sports Begin Nov. 21

Field Hockey Triumphs at NESCACs

Albert Bitici

Ashley Hall '05 and the Panthers defeated Williams 1-0 to take the NESCAC crown and remain undefeated. They now head to NCAA Finals.

By Tom McCann

Sports Editor

The Middlebury women's field hockey team won the NESCAC Championship last weekend. It seems like that sentence has been destined to introduce a field hockey article since the start of the season, but the expectation has finally become a reality. Coming off the back of two consecutive shutouts in the lead up to the playoffs, Middlebury hosted Amherst in the NESCAC semi-final and then faced the prospect of either Williams or Bowdoin in the final. While the four teams congregated in Middlebury over the weekend, only one would be crowned Champions, and there was never really any doubt as to who it would be.

Middlebury met Amherst in the NESCAC semi-final on Saturday afternoon and expected a tough encounter with their visitors. Last time they met, Middlebury eeked out a tough 3-2 win on the grass at Amherst. As Becca Brakeley '04 pointed out, "We wanted to prove that we are the better team." The press in Massachusetts pointed toward a comfortable win for Amherst but once the game began, none of that mattered, and it was business as usual for the Panthers. After a confident start from Middlebury, the breakthrough came with 12:08 to go in the first half when goal-machine Char Glessner '04 latched onto a pass from Ashley Lyddane '06 and fired a shot high into the net. The Panthers would then go on to score a crucial second goal, from Glessner again, on the stroke of half time when she finally scored on a shot following two rebounds. The second half saw Middlebury comfortably deal with the Amherst threat and when Abigail Lamb '04 put the finishing touches on a pass from Emily Enos '06 with 21 minutes to go, the game was as good as over. The Panthers completed the shutout in the remaining minutes, and taking comfortable 3-0 with them into the NESCAC

See Still, page 23

Overtime Shocker Ends Men's Soccer

By Dave Freedman

Staff Writer

At 1:48 into overtime John Rusten '05 fell to the ground outside Bowdoin's 18 and put his hands to his face in his disbelief. His body language conveyed just how stunned Middlebury's men's soccer team was after Bowdoin scored its second goal of the match in sudden death to end the Panthers' season and secure a trip to the NESCAC Tournament finals with a 2-1 victory.

"Soccer can be a very unfair game," Head Coach David Saward said afterwards. "Saturday was an occasion where the team that probably played the better match ended up going home. The result was unfortunate, but the performance was first class."

The performance was arguably the best the team had played all year. Middlebury dominated the time of possession, outshot the Polar Bears 18-10 and controlled the pace of the game throughout the match.

Early on it looked like Middlebury was going to run away with the game, having held the ball in their opponents' half of the field for most of the first 20 minutes. After a series of well played passes deep in the Polar Bear defense, Rusten fought for the ball at the top of Bowdoin's 18 and slipped a pass to first-year John Sales '07, who drove home his seventh goal of the season at 18:01, making the rookie the team's leader in points for the year.

The Panthers then poured on the pressure, earning four straight corner kicks after nearly scoring on multiple of occasions. But, like losses in the past, Middlebury couldn't find a way to finish its opportunities and close out the game.

"The reality is that we struggle to score enough goals to put ourselves in a position of comfort," Saward said.

The team's sense of comfort evaporated on an odd play at 24:01 when a ball curling in the howling 20 mph winds hit co-captain Pat

See Streaking, page 25

Volleyball Season Slips Away in NESCAC Play

By Dan Russell

Staff Writer

The Middlebury College women's volleyball team saw their season come to a disappointing end this past weekend at the NESCAC tournament held at Williamstown, Mass.

Volleyball

Friday, November 7

Middlebury	0
Bates	3

The Panthers, seeded seventh, faced Bates College in the first round. Although the Panthers fought valiantly against the Bobcats (26-9, 9-1 in NESCAC), and kept the matches close, they were never able to mount any real kind of offensive as they lost in three straight matches (23-30, 26-30, and 21-30).

Despite the heartbreaking loss, the Panthers have much to look forward to in the upcoming season. While departing seniors Danielle Boniello and Luz Brito will be greatly missed, their core group of players will remain the same. The team, which was often marred by inconsistency and struggled to find its identity this year, should emerge as a confident, poised, multifaceted squad and as one of the better teams in the NESCAC.

The defense, an area in which the Panthers often struggled this year, should be greatly improved and should allow Middlebury to take advantage of its powerful offense. Due to their youth and to several injuries the Panthers suffered this year, many players were thrust into new roles to which they were unaccustomed. As players have had time to grow comfortable with their new roles, the Panthers should benefit greatly from the experience as they now have a more versatile squad in which many of the pieces are interchangeable.

A team which had only two seniors this year will now be composed of seven upperclassmen (three seniors, four juniors) as well as three first-years who, having had time to observe from the sidelines, should be ready to step in and make a significant contribution. On offense the team will be anchored by captain Katy Hicks '05, who was a dominant force on offense this year,

See Optimism, page 23

Ryan Bids Farewell after 37 Years

By Peter Yordan

Sports Editor

The mother of Middlebury sports is finally leaving the College this winter, and with her goes the end of an era for the athletic department. For 37 years Winnie Ryan, assistant to the athletic director, has been the quiet controlling force behind the scenes in Middlebury athletics. Players, coaches and athletic directors have come and gone over the years, but Ryan has endured. After serving countless hours in the gym and touching thousands of athletes over the course of her distinguished career, however, Ryan has finally decided to call it quits. She leaves behind footprints which no one person can hope to fill.

Vlad Lodoaba

Winnie Ryan, assistant to the athletic director, leaves behind a saddened athletic community after her decision to call it quits after four decades of work.

Every student athlete at Middlebury over the last four decades has been watched over in some way by Ryan, though many may not have known it. Every time a team bus arrived, every time hockey tickets were sold, every time a recruiting letter was sent out, Ryan's tireless efforts were behind it all. "She's the works that make the watch tick," said Athletic Director Russ Reilly. "Ever since she told me over a year ago that she was taking off, it's been a bad day. Unfortunately, she's leaving on my watch." Ryan has run the lives of every team at Middlebury, and she has taken care of every detail of every athletic event that the college runs. "She just holds this place together. She's the glue. Anytime anyone has a question they just go to her," said 25-year coach Bob Smith. "I think it's very difficult to replace someone who knows as much as she knows. She's touched probably as many lives as any one of us here."

Ryan has indeed had a profound, if subtle effect on the coach-

See Bittersweet, page 23